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LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1833.

FOURPENCE.

This Journal is published every Saturday Morning, and is received, by the early Coaches, at Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Dublin, Glasgow, Edinburgh, and all other large Towns; but for the convenience of persons residing in remote places, or abroad, the weekly numbers are issued in Monthly Parts, stitched in a wrapper, and forwarded with the Magazines to all parts of the World.

[3. HOLMES, TOWN'S COURT.]

REVIEWS

Correspondence de Victor Jacquemout avec sa Famille et plusieurs de ses Amis, pendant son Voyage dans l'Inde (1828—1832). Jacquemont's Correspondence with his Family and Friends during his Travels in India.] 2 vols. Paris: Fournier; London, Baillière.

WE have received these very interesting volumes at too late an hour to admit of our examining them with the attention they merit. For the present, therefore, we must be content with translating the graphic account which the enterprising traveller gives of his rencontre with the robbers of the Himalaya mountains.

Camp of Beroli, on the road to Cashmeer. April 22, 1831.

I promised myself never to believe in adventures, but I have been forced to yield to evidence, and you must become a convert likewise. The Indians and the Persians call Cashmeer the Terrestrial Paradise. We are told that the road to Paradise itself is strait and difficult; it is the same with the road to Cashmeer.

At Súkshainpore, on the banks of the Hydaspes, the first shade was cast over my ambutory prosperity. The chief of this little town, which is a fief of one of the king's daughters, refused to obey the firmans from Runjeet Sing for furnishing my camp with necessary provisions. He shut himself up in his little mud fort with some miserable wretches, whose arms were match-locks, and threatened to fire on my escort if they insisted any further on his obedience....

h my escort, and encamped at Mirpore, where a numerous company of mules was to have been assembled at my disposal, to replace the camels unable to travel farther through the mountains. In place of mules, I found at Mir-pore a hundred knaves with their match-locks and a mud fort, indifferent to the orders of the Rajah, and who would have paid them even less attention, had not my friend Gúláb Sing been encamped at the distance of a few days march with three thousand regular troops. . . . At length I obtained a score of Cashmerian porters, only half of the necessary number; but I was so an-noyed at being detained in a place where the heat was intense, that, loading the twenty with the more necessary baggage, I pushed forward, leaving my mehmandar in care of the rest.....It was night when the rear-guard joined me.... Soon after a fierce storm arose, which lasted all night.....It appears, however, that Jupiter on this occasion only fired blank-cartridge; for his terrible racket neither killed nor wounded anybody. But the torrents of rain which accompa-nied this frightful conflagration of the heavens, melted my donkeys, my horses, my soldiers, my porters, as if they had been made of sugar. At sunrise I found only my horsemen, among whom there was some kind of discipline; but the rain had rendered them as torpid as serpents buried in snow, and their poor steeds were so horribly stiff, that they looked like wooden horses. This little select band, by degrees, put itself in mo-tion, literally dug out some of my foot soldiers, and succeeded in assembling from right and left twenty Cashmerians. All the rest had dis-appeared....Our road was one of extreme

difficulty; it was necessary to dismount every moment; and, in spite of every care, two of my troopers' horses fell down a precipice, whence they were taken severely bruised and very lame. For my part, I was always on foot, my hammer in my hand, constantly quitting the path, which was only a low and narrow opening, through a close jungle of thorny shrubs, to gain some neighbouring height, in order to take with my compass the direction of the strata. Prudence required that I should be accompanied in all these deviations by some armed attendants. * *

Núr is the name of a wretched hamlet, high up the mountains; it was my second halting-place, and I arrived there wet to the bone. Bodder Bochs (the mehmandar) did not make me wait long; he came up with my rear-guard, and some superfluous show of prisoners. He had passed a torrent on skins inflated with air, on the opposite banks of which the inhabitants of a village were quietly asleep, and in the first mo-ment of surprise he had brought off a score and a half of men. With such a reinforcement I believed myself at the end of my cares; but that evening famine raged in my camp. My people came to tell me that they were hungry, and that nothing eatable could be procured in the neighbouring woods. This was the fault of the mehmandar, who had not warned them to bring provisions. I recommended them to wait till morning, and ordered the soldiers to keep a good watch during the night. It was a second night of deluge, and my soldiers, who did not believe themselves insoluble in water, left their charge to seek a shelter; yesterday morning there was a further reduction in the number of my porters.... Last night the servant of my mehmandar, whose delay had caused some anxiety, came out of breath to tell me, that his master had fallen and broken his arm. Notwithstanding the Asiatic rule, never to advance a step towards an inferior, I took the staff of one of my Cashmerians, and, followed by several of them and my horsemen, I went down the mountain to help the wounded man. A three-hours' race over break-neck paths brought me to him; but his excessive pusillanimity made me almost regret having come so fast, if not so far. My visit having come so fast, if not so far. My visit only served to prevent him from making himself sick by drinking bad raki, "to keep his spirits up," as he said. I returned to the camp by the glimmering light of a very new moon, over roads absolutely frightful. Worn out with fatigue, exhausted by a fifteen hours' march, without appetite for support. I made them proved for appetite for supper, I made them prepare for me a little bad punch. As I had not tasted spirituous liquors for more than four months, the dose put me to sleep at once, and perhaps made me drunk during my slumbers, without my knowledge.

This morning my troop passed over the mountain ridge at sunrise; well-disposed to breakfast at the first halt. I went on foot, following my lame horse, in very bad humour, thinking about my disabled mehmandar, the difficulty of carrying him through the horrid roads, the impossibility of his accompanying me, the annoyance of asking the king for another in his place, &c.; when I found myself with my rear-guard at the foot of a lofty mountain, with sides almost vertical and a flat summit, on the verge of which I beheld a fortress. They told me that it belonged to the king, and was guarded by three or four hundred soldiers, under the command of a royal governor. In fact, I saw some people

of a very sinister aspect, with match-locks, sabres, and bucklers, coming down the only path which led to the summit, and the only one

by which it was possible to pass.

They saluted me, and told me that they came by order of their master to show me the road and guard my baggage. Their master, they added, was waiting above, to offer me his salutations and a nuzzer (a present from an inferior to a superior). All this appeared very probable, and after an hour's painful climbing, I reached the summit a little behind my escort.... I found my caravan reposing under an immense fig-tree, the only tree of this strange place. I ordered them to continue their march; but they told me that the people of the fort had prevented them for advancing further.

them from advancing further.

A great number of the garrison came up to me; they crowded round the horse on which I was mounted, but curiosity seemed their only motive, for the ranks were opened at my command. Still the crowd was so great, that my escort was lost in it; at length, impatient of delay, I commanded them to bring the governor as quick as possible. He came in the midst of a new crowd of soldiers, worse-looking than the preceding, and so miserably clad that I was forced to ask Mirzh which of those ragged beggars was the chief. Through respect for the king, whose officer he was, I dismounted to receive his compliments. He offered me a kid, which my maître d'hôtel took away. I scarcely waited the end of his harangue, to express my indignation at the hindrance offered to my caravan; I vehemently demanded if it was true that he had given such an order. Neal Sing, for such was the name of the bandit, appeared a little disconcerted by my violence; and, without answering my question, he offered to give me as many soldiers as I pleased, to guard my baggage. I replied, that he and I were the only inhabitants of this desert, that I wanted not his soldiers, and all that I requested was, that he would march them off. He gave me to understand, that such an order on his part would assuredly be disobeyed, and renewed his offer of an escort, which I deemed it prudent to accept.

of an escort, which I decimed it prudent to accept.
My position was rapidly becoming that of a
prisoner. Mirza spoke to Neal Sing only with
joined hands, (in token of submission,) whose
tone became proportionally elevated. Finally,
the governor after a long exposition of the
wrongs he had suffered from the king, and from
his minister Théan Sing, declared to me,—with
joined hands, observe, and in the most humble
and submissive tone—that having, by the possession of my person, means of forcing the king
to redress his grievances, he would keep me
prisoner until he obtained justice; and that my
person, my escort, and my baggage, should serve
him for hostages and security.

I saw with secret, very secret, displeasure, the effect of the governor's eloquence, as he warmed in the recital of his wrongs. A general clamour from the starving and hungry multitude, frequently drowned his voice, and the menacing conclusion of his speech was not the part least applauded. Each, as he listened, examined his lighted match and shook off the ashes. Several of the soldiers wished to speak in their turn, but I imperiously commanded the horrid wretches to keep silence, and after that, I only heard murmurs so feeble that the chief himself ventured to repress them. The calmness of my language, and the haughty air which I assumed.

as if without an effort, imposed on them. My contempt overwhelmed them. They had never heard one of their rajahs speak of himself, as I did, in the third person; Runjeet Sing is the only person that does so in the Punjab; and whilst I paid myself this respect, I spoke to them as mere slaves. By this means, I re-moved the greater part of them from their chief, whom I treated with the same familiarity, but with an air of benevolence and protection. I brought him under the shade of the fig-tree I already mentioned, to discourse with him less publicly. I made him sit down humbly on the ground, whilst one of my camp-chairs was got ready for my use. He seemed eager to enter on business, but I called my maitre d'hôtel, to bring me a glass of eau sucrée, which took a long time to prepare. I complained of the heat, and ordered another of my domestics to hold a parasol over me, and another, to fan me with a plume of peacocks' feathers. I took all my little com-forts, not only without abating my usual style, but adding largely to it, leaving Neal Sing on the ground in all his humility, to reflect on the greatness of the crime he had meditated, and the important consequences that might result, I then explained to him under what auspices I had come into the country, and the terrible vengeance which the king would exact for any injury I received in his states, to convince the English government that it had not been done by his instigation.

My honest friend protested that he entertained no criminal designs against me. He doubted not that the king, knowing me to be in his hands, would pay all arrears to extricate me. I represented to him, that after offering such an outrage to the powers of Runjeet, he could never flatter himself with the hope of a sincere pardon, and that sconer or later he would be cruelly punished. I affected to say this, not as menacing him, but as if influenced solely by a regard for his interests; and this artifice was not altogether unsuccessful. Neal Sing then proposed to set me free, and retain only my baggage. I rejected this idea at once, assigning reasons which made him feel more sensibly the distance between us. To travel without my tents! my books! my clothes! I, who changed twice a day! The proposal was absurd, impossible! Then, looking at my watch, I desired my maître d'hôtel to get breakfast ready without delay. I knew well that he had not, and could not have anything ready, since all my attendants had been made prisoners by the followers of Neal Sing, and did not dare to open a single package. The maître d'hôtel, at his wit's end. asked me where he was to find it or get it.
"Do you not hear?" said I to Neal Sing, "milk is wanted; send at once to the next village and have it brought without delay." The brigand was a little confounded by this policy; and in his uncertainty, dispatched some of his band to procure the required beverage. When they had gone about a hundred paces, I commanded my maître d'hôtel to recall them, and explain that I wished for the milk of the cow, not of the buf-falo or goat, and that they should see the animal milked themselves.

I designedly accustomed the robbers to obey me in trifling things, in order to facilitate the arrangement of more important matters, deferring my proposal by a thousand artifices, seeing that this kind of truce favoured my interests by the ascendancy which Neal Sing permitted me to assume. When I deemed the moment favourable, I offered him a present, and the support of my recommendation to the king.... He at once asked me for two thousand rupees. Some of his soldiers, who had gathered round, exclaimed, "No, no; ten thousand rupees;" my only reply to this, was a contemptuous expression of impatience, which none of them dared resent, and which lowered the mutineers so much in the

eyes of their companions, that no one afterwards dared to interrupt my conference with the chief. " Neither ten thousand, nor two, nor one thousand, for the best of all reasons, because I have them not; but, in consideration of your wretched state, I will give you five hundred rupees.""Five hundred rupees!" he exclaimed, "when four hundred of us here have been perishing with hunger these three years. Two thousand rupees, or remain a prisoner." Without paying the least regard to the alternative, I shrugged my shoulders at the absurdity of his demand, and offered to permit my treasurer to prove its impossibility. He eagerly accepted the offer of seeing my stock counted; but I reproved his emotion, with haughtiness, severity, and con-tempt; as if what I had said should be received as an undoubted truth. "The Asiatics," said I, "readily perjure themselves for a crown, but have you never heard tell of the value of the word of a christian gentleman?" He excused himself with joined hands, protested that he believed me, but added, that five hundred rupees would not satisfy his people. However, after some further manœuvres, I so completely triumphed, that I might have saved my rupees, had I not dreaded the insubordination of Neal Sing's followers.

The rest of my adventure is simply comic. The robber-in-chief declared that he would not take the money unless it was my good pleasure to give it. He made me almost laugh, by the humility of his protestations,—"Hereafter he would be my servant, since he had eaten of my salt, (a common mode of expression in all the Indian languages); only for his poverty, he would have offered me a nuzzer very different from a kid; but I, who had treated him so generously, knew well his perfect submission to all my wishes, and his extreme poverty." My servant gave the bag containing the rupees to Neal Sing, who with an humble and suppliant air prayed me to touch the money and his hand, when he took it, to prove that it was given purely from my own bounty, and as a satisfaction for his services. I complied, but with my left hand, and when the robber felt the finger with which I touched the sack, press lightly on his hand, he prostrated himself and cried, that he was the most faithful, grateful, and devoted of servants, and, if I permitted him to use such an expression, the most attached of my friends. He then said some words to Mirza, to extract a few rupees from him, and my poor devil of a lieutenant, with joined hands and a miserable look, was excusing himself on the score of poverty, when I restored his confidence by saying to the robber in an imperious tone, that he had caten my salt, and that Mirza also had eaten my salt. I made them shake hands, to cement a theatrical friendship, and then ordered my caravan to set out for Beráli. Neal Sing offer-ed me fifty of his robbers as an escort; I only took five. In taking leave of me, which may be translated, in restoring my freedom, he asked me in a low voice for a bottle of wine, which I had the good faith to send him according to my promise. I thought, however, it would be ridiculous, to have a bottle of my old port emptied to my health by such a scoundrel, and sent him a bottle of the rakí of Delhi, which I use instead of brandy.

The five robbers given as an escort, appeared very uneasy when they found themselves in a minority; they made their escape at a turning of the mountain, carrying off with them the lean kid which had been given me by Neal Sing, and which was undoubtedly the dearest which I ever could have tasted.

To-morrow I shall pitch my camp near a little town; my safety is, I flatter myself, assured as far as Cashmeer. My caravan will be re-victualled, and I shall send couriers by another road, to inform the king of my adventure and

ask reparation; I shall also inform M. Allard (a French officer of rank in the service of Runjeet Sing) of its peaceful termination. Woe to "the most faithful of my servants and devoted of my friends," if Runjeet Sing commissions M. Allard to punish his insolence! He has a tolerably fair chance of being hanged on the fig-tree that witnessed his treason; and this will be the greatest service that M. Allard can render him; for if he gives him up to the king, he will only preserve his life that he may undergo the most horrid tortures and mutilations. I sincerely hope that M. Allard will do him this kindness, I have, indeed, solemnly declared that I was delighted to give him five hundred rupees; and it is a fact, that I was delighted to get off so easily. My satisfaction then, as you may easily imagine, is only relative.

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I suppose this evening (ten o'clock), that Bodder Bochs, having got wind of my adventure, will not thrust himself into the waspa' nest. But there is no other road by which he can advance, and want of provisions will prevent his return to Mirpore. Neal Sing will make him pay dearly for his welcome; for he is the confidential friend of Théan Sing, who made his fortunes. He appears to me besides a very indifferent character, and little to be regretted as a mehmandar.

I hope that I shall not be obliged to lengthen my letter, already sufficiently long, by the recital of similar adventures; but if you are obliged to admit hereafter, that there are adventures to be met with, you see how small is their amount in the end. This cost me fifty Louis; but the rajah made me a present of five hundred, so that I still play on velvet.

I have nothing to reproach myself with in all this affair; violence might have cost the lives of some of the brigands, but it would not have rescued my attendants from massacre. Diplomacy was my only resource, and I think I have observed its forms as well as my old school-fellows, now mighty lords, and high in the diplomatic circles, would have done. But some day, when I shall have returned into the monotonous circles of sedentary European life, I shall have more pleasure in recalling the diplomatic remi-niscences of my youth, than their lordships aforesaid in remembering their embassies. I envy them not; the strolling life, some of whose vicissitudes I recount to you to-day, has likewise, as in the present instance, its pleasures, which are unknown in Paris. I permit my imagination to abandon itself to this charm, whilst my mind is continually occupied with objects of study; add to this some little philoso-phy, good health, and a pair of excellent legs, and believe that mine is the condition which ought to be envied. Adieu.

Though pressed for space, we must make room for the affecting account given of Jacquemont's death and burial, by his countryman, Captain Briolle: the conduct of the Bombay government on the occasion, reflects honour on the British name. It is contained in a letter addressed to M. de Prigny, Commissary-General of Marine at Bordeaux:—

Bordeaux, May 28, 1833.

M. the Commissary-General.— Happening to be at Bombay last December, when M. V. Jacquemont had completed his scientific tour, I hastened to visit a fellow-countryman, whom all the journals of India elevated to the rank of the most distinguished naturalists, but who, in consequence of the fatigues and privations he had to encounter in his toilsome researches, was unfortunately attacked by a liver discase of a most alarming character. I found him in bed, discoursing learnedly on his malady with the best physician of the country, to whose care he had been entrusted by the government, and explaining to him with the greatest calmness,

that in three or arr days he should be relieved from his agony, at at the expense of his life, because he felt, at the abscess would break internally, in which case there was no chance of recovery. How physician (Dr. Mac Lellan) having retired, Je., tuemont very highly praised his talents, and un attention bestowed upon him by the government of Bombay; but he again added, that he had not more than three or four days to live, that the aid of art was useless, and that having complete all his MSS., except a short account of Thibet, he should die with the consolation of having contributed all in his power to the progress of science, which, however, was still far from being complete. The poor fellow, in fact died the fourth day after this conversation, by the internal effusion that he predicted, preserving to the last moment a calmness, a sweetness, and a presence of mind worthy his noble soul.

The government of Bacabay, desirous to show homour to the memory or man so distinguished whis telepts and price of witters, ordered as ny adven-ne wasps'

honour to the memory of a man so distinguished by his talents and private virtues, ordered a magnificent funeral, at which all the civil and military authorities attended; and the body of poor Jacquemont was intered with military honours.

Barnadiston; a Tale of the Seventeenth Century. 3 vols. London: Saunders &

THE author of these volumes is a soldier-a disappointed one, he more than once intimates, -who seems, for the failure of military, to have sought the compensations of literary success; and has come into the peaceful domain of letters, in search of those laurels which have eluded him in the field of Mars. Undoubtedly he treads over the haunted ground in a right warlike spirit, and there is that in his bearing which inclines us to doubt whether he has not committed an error in his exchange of services. He seems, however, to make a merit of having substituted the one for the other, and pleads his militant character as entitling him to exemption from the strict application of the severer rules of critical discipline. The plea is one which, in the face of what has latterly been achieved by his brethren of the "red and the blue" in the cause of letters, has not all the force which once belonged to it; and we are the less disposed to admit it in this case, because the writer is, evidently, a scholar, as well as a soldier, and gives, in the work before us, evidence (though too ostentatiously obtruded) of a course of reading not a little extensive. But the plea is modestly urged; and this much, in deference to it, we will admit, -that while these volumes exhibit both talent and, what may be called, learning, many of their faults are of that kind which belong to the novelty of the service, and the unpractised use of by no means bad wea-

This is all we can say in favour of the work actually before us. Its great and besetting fault is one, to whose repeated commission we have so often had occasion to advert, that it begins to make us impatient. It belongs to that dull, descriptive school, which is, in our literature, of late years, one of the shadows projected by the blaze of Sir Walter Scott's glory. It is one of that class of historical novels, the authors of which fancy that, in adopting the formula of the enchanter, they have caught the charm with which he worked his miracles. The form is mistaken for the spirit--the dry bones are

nicate to them the breath of life. The moral is postponed to the material. All that which was the mere accident of the times, and which is, in its nature, continually changing, and might have belonged to any, is elaborately sought after and described, to the overlooking of all the important and emphatic features which characterized them. Particulars, the most trivial, are carefully used, for purposes which, as regards the conduct or objects of the work, are less than nothing; and facts and allusions, by the score, which are neither more nor less than very troublesome episodes in the narrative, are introduced with no visible intention but that of showing that they form part of the writer's acquired stores of information. The world is too much occupied, now-a-days, for such trifling. It can only afford to look back into the past to gather experience which may avail it in the future—to listen to the deep oracles of truth, and learn the solemn lessons of wisdom. It has no time to hunt amid the tombs, in the mere dry spirit of antiquarianism, though it can stand, with the "Wizard of the North," beside the graves of the mighty dead, and listen with bowed head and instructed heart, while, like another Samuel, he calls them up, and makes them, in truth, to speak and move. The public mind is awakened from a long slumber, and knows the value of its hours; and he who would, in our day, write successfully, even in the garb of amusement, must write because he has got something important to

The tale before us is laid in the seventeenth century, in the reigns of the first James and Charles; and all the striking events of that period are brought in and huddled together, with small regard to the unities, and some little confusion of dates. The author's style not being one of the points on which we can afford him our commendation, we shall not offer any extract to our readers as a specimen; but will repeat, that the volumes contain evidence of talent and acquirements which may be used to far better effect; and that we shall be glad to meet the author again in some work where he shall draw more upon his own mind, and less upon his note-

CABINET CYCLOPÆDIA, VOL. XLIX. History of Europe during the Middle Ages. Vol. II. London: Longman & Co.

WE gave our opinion of the former volume of this work at some length; nor has the inspection of the present led us to think either more favourably of the subject in an abridged form, or less highly of the ability and industry of the author. A History of the Middle Ages is so full of grand problems, that it is per-petually making demands on both the reason and the imagination of the reader; and few thinking men will refuse to allow, that where the information is in no degree proportionable to the excitement, a dangerous experiment is made on the intellectual faculties. Few periods of importance in the records of our race can be contemplated historically in an abridgment, without involving the mind in absurdities; and the great fault which we have to find with the many accomplished writers who have attempted to epitomise national annals, is the forgetfulness they have manifested of the distinction beput together by hands which cannot commu- tween what is morally, and what is histori- on a plan which we should have thought

cally to be studied. Had they not neglected this grave consideration, they would have seen that the political argument of history is composed of innumerable links, none of which ought to be lost sight of by him who would either write or read history as such; but that there are certain examples and incidents which, by their representing some general truth—some immutable principle in human nature—may, with propriety, be exhibited to minds which it would be very unsafe to hurry along through bewildering ranks of half-displayed characters and facts

imperfectly related. In the records of the Middle Ages, every chapter affords a signal proof of the truth of what we are saying. The annals of Greece and Rome may be read in a condensed form, and not leave the mind conscious of any great bewilderment. But the events they relate had an accountable sequence: they were not phenomena generated in darkness and mystery; they had a physical form and substance; and, legionaries of time, their march might be traced, and the sound of their steps heard, till they almost reached the limits which Providence had prescribed them. It is very different with the events of the Middle Ages. They were the result of causes working far below the surface; and in their progress they rushed on with the uncertain speed and turbulence of a whirlwind. Power, condensed into masses, lay for a time like a dead weight on large portions of mankind, and was then suddenly broken up by the convulsive heavings of their spirit. Out of a complete chaos, systems grew into form and consistency, which had almost a theoretical perfection while breathing the real breath of human passion: principles unknown before-principles which had their birth in the recognition of men's immortality, then found the means of developing themselves; but, to increase the wonder and mystery of the period, superstition threw her mantle of clouds and shadows over the whole, and left both tyranny and liberty to work out their designs in darkness, There is nothing in the history of the World worthy of comparison with a chapter in that of the Middle Ages: the mighty empires of antiquity were but vast pools dammed up with care till the hour should come for letting their contents loose; and, regarded in themselves, they furnish but a proverb on the insignificance of human greatness and the fraudulency of its pretensions. In the beginning of the new era, on the contrary, humanity claimed honour, not in its pro-digious aggregates merely, but in the mi-nutest individuality; and it is the discovery of this principle, and of the means and methods through which its great purpose was attained, that gives such value and interest to the records of the period. But vainly would the historian attempt to do justice to such a subject in its length and breadth, if his limits oblige him to contract his centuries into pages, and to describe characters by an

epithet. Our author has struggled stoutly, however, against the disadvantages resulting from his limited space; and so far as any idea can be formed of the Middle Ages from an epitome, it may be gathered from his work. But we cannot help observing, that it would have been far mere judicious had he written

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THE ATHENÆUM.

both the editor and himself must have been led to adopt from the very nature of the Cyclopædia. A history of the Middle Ages, as to the substantial facts of the narrative, must, in reality, be given in the national histories which form the historical division of the general work. This the author himself felt to be the case whenever he approached the name of Spain or Portugal; and other writers will feel that he has trenched on writers will leel that he has trenched on their departments, giving in a very naked style what it is their duty fully to develope, and thereby abridging his space without doing the reader any service whatever. Now, had he given the results of his had he given the results of his extensive knowledge that form which would have made them illustrate the historical phenomena of the Middle Ages-had he placed in broad relief the few great principles which characterized the period, and described their effects as they appeared in the production of new institutions and new modes of social existence, we should have had a work in every way adapted to fill up the chasm left by the other histories, and to give consistency to the series. What we are saying is well illustrated by almost every passage in which the author has generalized his facts into reasons; and shown how systems rose, and with what nourishment they were fed. In doing this, his rapid narrative affords him little or no help: the most discriminating reader could scarcely discover, from the change of dates and names, that a spirit was about to be evolved animating men and nations; and the question is perpetually prompted, whence did the author get the light which enables him to talk so profoundly on subjects which, in the rush of incidents, appear involved in such doubt and obscurity? A full display, on the contrary, of those branches of his subject embraced under the different heads of Feudal Law, of Chivalry, of Ecclesiastical Government, and points of such like import, would have explained to the general reader what ordinary history rarely unfolds, and sent him with an eager and informed mind to study, or re-study, the whole body of facts recorded in the annals of each particular nation. We shall now give a passage which evinces the author's ability in drawing general conclusions; but which would have possessed infinitely more value had it been combined more largely with

"The period over which we have run is remarkable for the revolution it witnessed in the condition of the people. During the ninth century they exhibit as little patriotism as courage; they flee at the first approach of the Normans: but in the tenth we perceive that a noble stand was made by them; that, instead of dreading, they insisted on being led against the enemy. One great cause of this change was doubtless the increase of population. The proprietors were no longer defended by an imperial chief; they had no longer to fight for a great monarchy, but for the district or province they inhabited—often for their own possessions only; and, in the scarcity of vigorous arms to assist them, they began to devise the means of multiplying the rural population, and administering to its comfort. They felt that the value of their territory depended on security; that it should be estimated, not so much by superficial extent, as by the number of troops. They eagerly offered land to any vassal who would cultivate it, subject to two conditions—a light annual return, and personal service in the field. The

younger sons of gentry, the experienced chiefs, the men of consideration, obtained an extent divided the fief, on the same conditions as they themselves recognised. Hence there was a due subordination of ranks in every rural community: there were many degrees between the chief holders of the fief and the villains. Some held land as a condition of mechanical labour; some in consideration of their commercial knowledge: for after the wants of all were satisfied, a surplus would remain for sale to fill the coffers of the baron. As the number of hands, no less for defence than for cultivation, would long continue inadequate, extraordinary en-couragement was afforded to marriage: hence the amazing multiplication of the human species from the commencement of the tenth century. How different this from the state of things under the Carlovingian emperors, when a proprietor preferred a scanty peasantry, to escape the obligation of supporting a considerable number of men-at-arms! As a consequence, hamlets were built, and expanded into villages, or even towns; walls were thrown round them, and, at the same time, round the residence of the chief, who dwelt with them. Another revolution must be noticed. The male allodial proprietors who remained, finding that they were unable to protect themselves against hostile aggression, were glad to obtain protection from some baron or prince, by changing the tenure of their possessions,—they consenting to hold as a fief what they had previously held jure proprietario. That this multiplication of vassals was attended by a corresponding increase of comfort, is not so much asserted by chroniclers—always too brief to leave room for reflection—as evidenced by the change in the disposition of the people. They now flew to arms, at the first signal, with an alacrity that showed they had something to fight for-something no less dear to them than to their lords-their cottages and family, their fields and flocks. One disadvantage, indeed, they had,-their more rigorous subjection to their superior, who held a more extended jurisdiction over them; whom they regarded as their natural judge, no less than general, and from whose decision there was no appeal. But so long as the barons had need of their services, in other words, so long as there was a war with some neighbouring baron—for at this period they were not slow in asserting their right to make war or peace at pleasure, - they were to be treated well, even to be caressed. It was only when no enemy was near, that their lord oppressed them; but this was seldom: for such were the restless passions of these petty sovereigns, that they were generally either actually engaged in war, or meditating its com-mencement. The transformation of deserts into populous villages and towns had the effect contemplated: in less than 200 years the counts of Toulouse, Flanders, Vermandois, the dukes of Normandy, Bretagne, or Burgundy, could bring greater armies into the field, more numerous, better disciplined, and, consequently, more formidable, than had ever been in the power of most Carlovingian emperors."

Considering the immense influence which chivalry exercised over a most important portion of the period described, we do not think the three pages devoted to this subject can be regarded by any reader as sufficient for its exposition. Far better would the author have done, had he given some examples of its operation from the rich stores of old tradition, instead of crowding the latter part of his volume with so many tales of saints and confessors, to the exclusion of matter so essential to his purpose. What is still worse, he has written on this subject with great looseness as well as brevity. "Chi-

valry," says he, "may be regarded as the perfection of the feudal state." Now, we perfection of the feudal state." Now, we greatly doubt whether it had anything to do in its more important relations with the feudal system; but, however this may be, it certainly was not, as the author says, " the perfection of the feudal state, not so much because it was an order into which the noble and the brave were solemnly admitted, as because it necessarily elevated the human character;" for the feudal state itself had no tendency to elevate the human character; and had it not been broken up, Europe would still have worn the chains of superstition and despotism. The remainder of the passage on this subject, so high important to a right view of the Middle Ages, is a mere right view of the Middle Ages, is a mere fanciful eulogium on knighthood, and is quite unworthy of the author. To this, however, we may fairly oppose the excellent disser-tation on German Jurisprudence, which is written with equal scholarship and judgment. We extract the following curious particulars respecting one branch of offences and punishments from this article :-

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" If from the condition of persons we pass to crimes, we shall find a vast and curious field for contemplation. The great principle of the Germanic punishment was pecuniary compen-sation, as well to the party injured as to the sation, as went to the party injuried as to the state; but we shall soon perceive that the last penalty was often inflicted in cases where modern justice would scarcely condescend to interfere; while, on the other hand, light penalties were once sufficient, where now nothing less than death can satisfy the violated law. But this distinction between the ancient and modern systems of punishment is not more striking than that which prevailed among people of the same nation, often of the same country, and among different classes of the same society. To com mence with theft, which occupies so considerable a space in the codes of all nations, barbaric or enlightened. The Wisigothic code compelled a freeman to return nine-fold the value of the thing stolen, the slave six-fold, and both received a hundred stripes. Among the Burgundians a great distinction was properly made between the thieves who used violence, and those who simply carried their booty away: in the former case the penalty was always death, and so even in the latter, if the object stolen were a horse or an ox; but in most other cases the law was satisfied with the restoration of three-fold the value; and if the thief were a slave, he received three hundred stripes. In like manner among the Franks the graver offence was punished with death, while the minor was redeemed by money, unless while the minor was redeemed by money, unless the offender were a slave, unable to pay the mulct: in this case, stripes, or even castration, followed. Among the Bavarians the penalty was hanging, if the value of the thing stolen equalled ten sols; and even then compensation was to be made from the malefactor's substance. Minor thefts were atoned for by a mulct of nine times the value, unless the thing were stolen from a church, or the palace of the prince, when twentyseven times the value was exacted. The Alamanni, or Suabians, were less severe: for graver thefts, nine times the value was deemed sufficient; for minor ones, a few sols; but if the theft were from a religious edifice or a palace, the mulet was twenty-seven-fold. The Saxons were savage: under the value of three sols, the reparation was nine-fold; above that sum, reparation was nine-fold; above that sun, death: and the last penalty was exacted on the thief discovered in the house or precincts of the man he intended to rob. The Angles and the Werins were satisfied with the restoration of the value three-fold. The Frisians also thought a pecuniary penalty sufficient, of 80 sols from a noble, of 40 from an ingenuus; but if the thief were a slave, he was whipped to death, unless his owner would redeem his skin by four sols. But, mild as this people were in this respect, they visited sacrilege with terrific vengeance: the culprit was taken to the sea-shore, where, after his ears were cropped, he was castrated, and immolated to the gods. Among the Lombards, the offence was minutely graduated by the rank of the culprit and the circumstances of the case; in general, a restitution eight or nine fold, with a heavy pecuniary mulet for the royal treasury, was deemed sufficient to satisfy justice; and if he were unable to pay, he died. Frederic I. made hanging the invariable penalty where the value reached five sols; when it fell short, branding and stripes. The same punishment was sanctioned by the provincial law of Saxony, by that of Suabia; and by the statutes of many cities. But subsequent legislators, from Charles V. downwards, world not sanction the last penalty unless the theft were accompanied by burglary or violence, or the repetition of a former offence."

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A similar degree of learning and ability is displayed in other parts of the volume, where the author finds himself at liberty to expatiate without the incumbrance of regular narrative. Many of his sketches of the ecclesiastics and scholars of the periods which he describes, are also written with great fidelity and spirit. Notwithstanding our fear, therefore, that the reflection of the Middle Ages in these volumes can be but an imperfect one to the general reader, we repeat our praises of the erudition they exhibit; and can add, that though the author might, on a better plan, have produced a much more useful book, he has given the regarded as the sacrifice of a very learned and very laborious writer to their wants and curiosity.

The Story without an End. Translated from the German, by Sarah Austin. Illustrated by William Harvey, Esq. London: Wilson.

This is a delightful fairy tale—and therefore, in our simple judgment, the most valuable addition that has been made for many years to the Nursery Library. We are all indebted to Mrs. Austin for one literary work or another according to our several fancies, but our children's children will thank her for this 'Story without an End!' What by-gone days and years did not the opening sentence recall!—

"There was once a child who lived in a little hut, and in the hut there was nothing but a little bed and a looking-glass which hung in a dark corner. Now the child cared nothing at all about the looking-glass; but as soon as the first sunbeam glided softly through the casement and kissed his sweet eyelids, and the finch and the linnet waked him merrily with their morning songs, he arose, and went out into the green And he begged flour of the primrose, and sugar of the violet, and butter of the buttercup; he shook dew-drops from the cowslip into the cup of a hare-bell; spread out a large lime leaf, set his little breakfast upon it, and feasted daintily. Sometimes he invited a humming bee, oftener a gay butterfly, to partake his feast; but his favourite guest was the blue dragonfly. The bee murmured a great deal, in a solemn tone, about his riches: but the Child thought that if he were a bee heaps of treasure would not make him gay and happy; and that it must be much more delightful and glorious to float about in the free and fresh breezes of

spring, and to hum joyously in the web of the sunbeams, than, with heavy feet and heavy heart, to stow the silver wax and the golden honey into cells.

"To this the butterfly assented; and he told, how, once on a time, he too had been greedy and sordid; how he had thought of nothing but eating, and had never once turned his eyes upwards to the blue heavens."

Here, too, is a walk in the woods :-

"The Child went out into the green wood, of which the dragonfly had told him such pleasant stories. But he found every thing far more beautiful and lovely even than she had described it; for all about, wherever he went, the tender moss pressed his little feet, and the delicate grass embraced his knees, and the flowers kissed his hands, and even the branches stroked his cheeks with a kind and refreshing touch, and the high trees threw their fragrant shade around him.

him.
"There was no end to his delight. The little birds warbled and sang, and fluttered and hopped about, and the delicate wood flowers gave out their beauty and their odours; and every sweet sound took a sweet odour by the hand, and thus walked through the open door of the Child's heart, and held a joyous nuptial dance therein. But the nightingale and the lily of the valley led the dance; for the nightingale sang of nought but love, and the lily breathed of nought but innocence, and he was the bridegroom and she was the bride. And the nightingale was never weary of repeating the same thing an hundred times over, for the spring of love which gushed from his heart was ever new; and the lily bowed her head bashfully, that no one might see her glowing heart. And yet the one lived so solely and entirely in the other, that no one could see whether the notes of the nightingale were floating lilies, or the lilies visible notes, falling like dew-drops from the nightingale's throat.

And when the Boy was benighted, here was fairy minstrelsy:—

"But the dragonfly was fleet, and gratitude strengthened her wings to pay her host the honour she owed him. And truly in the dim twilight good counsel and guidance were scarce. She flitted hither and thither without knowing rightly what was to be done; when, by the last vanishing sunbeam, she saw hanging on the edge of the cave some strawberries who had drunk so deep of the evening-red, that their heads were quite heavy. Then she flew up to a harebell who stood near, and whispered in her ear that the lord and king of all the flowers was in the wood, and ought to be received and welcomed as beseemed his dignity. Aglaia did not need that this should be repeated. She began to ring her sweet bells with all her might; and when her neighbour heard the sound, she rang hers also; and soon all the harebells, great and small, were in motion, and rang as if it had been for the nuptials of their mother earth herself, with the prince of the sun. The tone of the blue bells was deep and rich, and that of the white, high and clear, and all blended together in a delicious harmony.

in a delicious harmony.

"But the birds were fast asleep in their high nests, and the ears of the other animals were not delicate enough, or were too much overgrown with hair, to hear them. The fireflies alone heard the joyous peal, for they were akin to the flowers, through their common ancestor, light. They inquired of their nearest relation, the lily of the valley, and from her they heard that a large flower had just passed along the footpath more blooming than the loveliest rose, and with two stars more brilliant than those of the brightest firefly, and that it must needs be their king. Then all the fireflies flew up and down the foot path, and sought every where, till at length they came, as the dragonfly had hoped they would, to the cave.

" And when he had eaten his fill, he sat down on the soft moss, crossed one little leg over the other, and began to gossip with the fireflies. And as he so often thought on his unknown parents, he asked them who were their parents. Then the one nearest to him gave him answer; and he told how that they were formerly flowers, but none of those who thrust their rooty hands greedily into the ground and draw nourishment om the dingy earth, only to make themselves fat and large withal; but that the light was dearer to them than any thing, even at night; and while the other flowers slept, they gazed un-wearied on the light, and drank it in with eager adoration,—sun and moon and star light. And the light had so thoroughly purified them, that they had not sucked in poisonous juices like the yellow flowers of the earth, but sweet odours for sick and fainting hearts, and oil of potent, ethereal virtue for the weak and the wounded; and, at length, when their autumn came, they did not, like the others, wither and sink down, leaf and flower, to be swallowed up by the darksome earth, but shook off their earthly garment and mounted aloft into the clear air. But there it was so wondrously bright, that sight failed them; and when they came to themselves again, they were fireflies, each sitting on a withered flower-stalk,"

We have indulged our own taste so far as to make a separate article of this little beautiful volume, and with the hope that to some few at least of our readers these extracts will be welcome. The book altogether is a literary gem—Harvey has caught the true spirit of the author, and these illustrations will rank among his most successful works. We have only to regret that the publishers should have so little sympathy with the modest nature of the man, and the pre-eminence of the artist, as to designate him as William Harvey, esquire, in the title-page.

LIBRARY OF ROMANCE.—Vol. IX.

The Dark Lady of Doona. By the Author
of 'Stories of Waterloo.' London: Smith
& Elder.

This is a story of singular power; but the materials, even in less able hands, could scarcely fail to be effective. Grace O'Malley, half heroine, half pirate, the terror of the Western and Southern Seas, who presented herself to Elizabeth more as an equal than a subject, a stern despot, yet adored by her vassals, is the theme of many a wild tradition that may shame the boldest flights of fiction. Let those who haste to denounce her as a robber, remember the names of Frobisher, Drake, and Raleigh, whose bucca-neering deeds she only emulated in narrower limits; and let them attribute her unparallimits; and let them attribute her unparalleled character to the unparalleled circumstances of her age. The neglect of Irish history can alone account for the Dark Lady of Doona having escaped from the researches of the many romance writers who have, within the last twenty years, hunted the world's chronicles for exciting themes; we are glad that the painting of her portrait was reserved for Mr. Maxwell, because he has, in his own nature, a dash of her reckless spirit, and cares as little for artificial rules as did his heroine for English laws. The story is all over Irish; no country but Ireland, under the Tudors, could have been the scene of the adventures described, and no one but a native of Ireland could have ventured to depict them. Criticism on such a work would be as idle as reading the riot

act at Donnybrook Fair-not a soul would pay it the least attention. The book places us in the position of the happy man whose hand Sterne says "he would go thirty miles on foot to kiss;" it amuses, excites, and pleases us, "we know not why, and we care not wherefore." With this brief judgment our readers will perhaps rest content; for after perplexing our brains for half an hour, we cannot find one extract that would, in our opinion, do justice to the writer.

Hortus Woburnensis; a Descriptive Catalogue of upwards of Six Thousand Ornamental Plants, cultivated at Woburn Abbey; with numerous illustrative Plans for the erection of Forcing Houses, Greenhouses, &c. By James Forbes, A.L.S., Gardener to his Grace the Duke of Bedford. Lon-

don: Ridgway.

THE plan of this work is good. The objects of cultivation, the routine of cropping, the periods of forcing fruits and flowers, and the hothouses employed for such purposes, are nearly the same in all large gardens, and a welldigested and accurate account of what is found most useful or beautiful in one, will serve as the rule of practice in nearly all others. The Duke of Bedford's garden is one of the best in England, and Mr. Forbes is one of the most experienced of gardeners; so that a better model or a better man could hardly be found, to illustrate the most efficient plans which are followed in the management of horticultural affairs in England.

In many respects, the work is well executed; the detailed plans of hothouses are extremely useful, and some of the chapters are valuable guides to practice, -such, for example, as that relating to the forcing department, in which, with a trifling exception or two, the remarks upon metallic roofs for hothouses are sensible and judicious: we need hardly add, that the author strongly recommends their adoption. There are also many hints connected with the management of pleasure grounds, which are well worthy of attention. We could have wished that the kitchen garden had been less cursorily noticed, and that the lists of fruit trees had been more carefully revised; for although the latter contain most of the more valuable varieties now cultivated, yet many kinds have been allowed to find their way into them, which ought to be expelled from every good garden. Of what value, for instance, as choice fruits, are the Gilogil, Etranglée, and Martin Sec pears, or the Calville apples? which, by the bye, figure under both their English and French names. But what we chiefly find fault with is the introduction of an enormous number of weeds under the title of 'Ornamental Plants,' in a Catalogue of 6000 species cultivated at Woburn; in p. 3, for instance, we have five kinds of Glasswort, the common Mare's-tail, Callitriche, and Corispermum! along with Zostern Marian, which, we suspect, was never yet cultivated by anybody.

Notwithstanding these blemishes, we can recommend Mr. Forbes's work to our gardening friends, as a useful publication.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

'The Ocean Bride; a Tale of the Sea, in Six Cantos, by M. S. Milton.'-The scene of this poem belongs to our own shores; the time of the story is as late as the accession of the house of Hanover, and the persons who suffer or triumph, are chiefly of our own flesh and blood. This is what we have often desired to see: but when we expressed the wish, we thought of a bard of greater vigour of thought, and of a higher inspiration, than the one before us. The verse of this second Milton runs easily, and often harmoniously, along; he is never at a loss for something to say, and often draws pictures natural and just. But there is a want of unity and aim; he has few original images; his fancy has a limited range, and he abounds in words. The sea-fight in Canto Fifth has energy and originality; indeed, the author's strength lies in maritime matters.

'Songs of the Loire.'—These songs, it seems, were "sung with delight on the banks of the bright and beautiful Loire"; if they were listened to in the same spirit, the author could not but be a happy man; they would excite little rapture, we fear, on the banks of the Thames.

Poland, a Poem, by John Barrington.'-It is all in vain! neither the patriot's sword, nor the poet's song, can pluck Poland out of the claws of the Bear and the talons of the Eagle. If, however, the deliverance of the land is to be achieved by song, we fear that the bard before us is not the man to accomplish it: if we understand him aright, the more blood shed the better chance

or freedom.

No, perjured despot, thou canst never make
The free-souled slaves; their spirits are untamed:
Not all the blood which thou hast spilt can slake
The burning thirst of Freedom.

A Synopsis of Systematic Botany, as connected with the Plants admitted into the Pharmacopæias of London, Edinburgh, and Dublin; accompanied by a Planisphere, showing at one view the class and order of the medical genera, according to Linnaus and Jussieu, by Thomas Castle, F.L.S.'-The author of this work tells us, in his preface, that his intention is "to represent in a concise and plain form the present state of Systematic Botany, as connected with certain medical plants; and he furnishes his readers with an outline of the Linnean Natural Orders, which has been disused for these forty years. He professes to explain the application of the names of this disused arrangement, and he tells us that Lomentaceæ are "so named from lomentum, a colour used by painters, because some of its plants are employed in dyeing!" There is not a student of six weeks' standing, who could not have told him that lomentum, in botanical language, means a kind of pod. He assures us that he has followed the improvements that have lately taken place, and referred each genus to the order it now belongs to; and he refers Dryobalanops to Guttiferæ, instead of Dipterocarpeæ; Krameria to Rosaceæ, instead of Polygaleæ; Lichen, used in its ancient sense, to Algæ, Piper to Urticeæ, and Ulmus to Amentacea. Achille Richard he calls Professor Richards; poor old Thunberg is Thunbergh; Sweet Marjoram has become Magorana, and the Angostura Bark Tree (Casparia febrifuga) is called the Cascarilla Tree. Were Mr. Castle's book well executed, it would be perfectly useless; if it is intended, as we presume it is, for the use of certain medical students, we can only say, Alas! poor students.

'India, by Captain Thornton, R N.'-This seems a very accurate compilation; much is said in small compass; the history of our mercantile empire in the East is brought into the limit of an hour's reading. The author acknowledges his inability, from want of authentic documents, to relate with accuracy the remarkable siege of Bhurtpore; he might have found some valuable information on the subject in Blackwood's Magazine. The natives of the peninsula, so soon as they heard that the place had fallen, cried out, "We are conquered now"; an old prophecy declaring, "When Bhurtpore is taken Hindostan is lost."

'Military Studies, by Marshal Ney. Translated by G. H. Caunter, Esq.; with Introduction and Diagrams by Major A. James.'-The study of a work like this, written by so celebrated a foreign soldier, must be greatly serviceable to our own officers, and the publishers have done wisely in detaching it from the Memoirs. translation, considering the technical difficulties to be overcome, appears to us admirable.

' Principles of Effect and Colour, by G. F. Phillips.'—It is impossible to describe this work; the prose instructions are illustrated by examples from the pencil, and both seem judicious, All who desire to understand landscape, as well as those who wish to paint it, should consult this work. We have not Burnet's book at hand, else we might have been tempted to compare the opinions and directions of the two artists: Phillips is clear and simple; Burnet, as far as we recollect, is equally clear and simple, but more scientific.

' Uncle Philip's Conversations with Children, about the Habits and Mechanical Employment of Inferior Animals. —This is a republication, by Mr. Tegg, of an American book; the original has also been sent to us by Mr. Rich, and the title is, to our minds, more characteristic of the work,- 'Conversations with Children about Tools and Trades among Inferior Animals;'for it is by talking on the subject in this imagi-native style, that Uncle Philip hopes to win the attention of his young relatives. Thus we have a chapter 'About a Fly that can work with a Saw and a Rasp, like the Carpenter; another 'About Animals that do Mason's work,' Both editions are illustrated with numberless engravings, and the work is, we think, likely to be interesting to young persons.

'The Missionary; or, Christian's New Year's Gift, edited by Wm. Ellis.'-Somewhat too serious in its tone and character, for general circulation, but containing some sensible and some pleasant papers.

'Voyages round the World, by Edmund Fan-ning.'—Written in a plain, straightforward, seaman-like style. The account of the Falkland Islands is particularly good and interesting, and we should certainly have transferred it to our pages, had we not so lately given in the Athenæum, full particulars of a subsequent visit by

one of our own officers. ' A Geological Manual, by H. T. De la Beche.' A third edition of this very valuable work will be most welcome to all persons interested in the science of which it treats. The constant accumulation of facts cannot but have great influence on a science so essentially one of observation, and every edition proves the vigilance with which its author watches for and records them. The work has been already translated into French and German, and reprinted in America, which is the best testimony we can offer of its admitted importance by those persons conversant with the subject.

'A Practical View of Christianity, by W. Wilberforce, Esq.; to which is prefixed a Life of the Author.'—There is a tinge of asceticism in the writings of Wilberforce, which greatly detracts from their usefulness; and this is the more to be regretted, because his tone of affectionate remonstrance is well calculated to produce a beneficial effect on the minds of those who are just entering into life. It is dangerous to place a ban upon innocent amusements, to tighten the chains on action; -when compunction begins after recreation, its effect is weakened as a check on vice and crime. This truth has been so frequently and fatally confirmed by a multitude of examples, that we are surprised to find any one insensible of its importance. The memoir prefixed to this edition is written in singularly bad taste, and contains sentiments belonging to the seventeenth rather than the nineteenth century.

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Travels in Turkey, &c. by R. R. Madden.'-This work was well received by the public, and this second edition has had the benefit of a careful revision.

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'Hawkins's Treatise on the Prophet Daniel.'— The poor man who published this whimsical perfersion of Scripture as an interpretation of prophecy, merits pity rather than censure.

'A Discourse on the occasion of the Death of the Rajah Rammohun Roy.'—Mr. Fox is an able man and an eloquent preacher, but, like most man and an eloquent preacher, but, like most Unitarians, he is too food of urging the merits of his peculiar creed. The present discourse possesses great literary merit, but it is controversial-and a worse fault, in our estimation, it could scarcely have.

'Paternal Advice to Young Men.'-Better advice could not be given; the author has strong claims on the gratitude of parents.

Geographical Annual, 1834; Biblical Annual, 1834.'—Works of permanent value, and there-fore as well suited for presents in 1834 as in

'The Fancy Fair; a Tale.'—The intentions of the writer are good, but the story is overdrawn and extravagant. Hood hit the right nail on the head, when he held the fancy fairs up to ri-

'Time Tables, by John Clark.'-These tables show at one view the number of days from any particular day, exclusively, to every subsequent particular day, exclusively, to every subsequent day inclusively throughout the year, and can-not fail, we should suppose, to be of great use to bankers and others, who receive or draw bills, or are much engaged in calculating interest.

Richards's Universal Daily Remembrancer for 1834.'-The nature of such a work is well known to our commercial readers, and Mr. Richards offers them either in quarto or octavo, with the addition of many useful tables.

'The National Magazine. Parts 1 and 2.'-This promises to be one of the best of the cheap publications. It is decidedly a creditable work, from which curious and valuable information may be obtained, and the proprietors have be-gun with a spirit and liberality that ought to

'A comprehensive Dictionary of English Symonymes.'—A useful volume, and the more so because the compiler leaves the reader to refer to the common dictionary for the meaning of words, and refrains from philological speculation, which has enabled him to compress the subject matter on which he treats into a thin duodecimo.

'First Steps in Latin construing.'- A work that will greatly facilitate the progress of youthful students.

'Oswald's Etymological Dictionary,'-This very laborious compilation deserves to be introduced into every school, where the English language is taught; unfortunately, this is not the case with two-thirds of the schools in Eng-

'Hill's Grammar Lessons.'-A sensible and useful book; particularly suited for private in-struction. We recommend it to the notice of mothers, who wish to give their children some knowledge of Grammar.

The Royal Cameo Scrap Book .- This is one of those drawing-room ornaments, with which the critics have nothing to do but announce their ppearance. It contains cameo heads of the King — Queen — Duke of Wellington — Earl Grey—Lords Brougham and Byron—Sir Walter Scott and Thomas Moore, and is, of course, to be further adorned by the pen or the pencil of the purchaser and has friends. the purchaser and her friends.

ORIGINAL PAPERS

TO T. STOTHARD, ESQ.

On his Illustrations of the Poems of Mr. Rogers. CONSUMMATE Artist, whose undying name With classic Rogers shall go down to fame, Be this thy crowning work! In my young days How often have I with a child's fond gaze Pored on the pictured wonderst thou hadst done: Clarissa mournful, and prim Grandison! All Fielding's, Smollett's heroes, rose to view; I saw, and I believed the phantoms true. But, above all, that most romantic tale! Did o'er my raw credulity prevail, Where Glums and Gawries wear mysterious

things, That serve at once for jackets and for wings. Age, that enfeebles other men's designs, But heightens thine, and thy free draught refines.

In several ways distinct you make us feel— Graceful as Raphael, as Watteau genteel. Your lights and shades, as Titianesque, we

praise; And warmly wish you Titian's length of days. C. LAMB.

DR. JOHN JEBB, BISHOP OF LIMERICK, &c. [From a Correspondent.]

Dr. John Jebb, late Bishon of Limerick, was born at Drogheda, Sept. 2775, though he has been erroneously represented as a native of England in some of the newspapers. In his early years he enjoyed the blessing of an excellent domestic education, and when, at the age of eleven, he was sent to a public school, he carried with him a mind trained to habits of study ried with him a mind trained to habits of study and reflection, and prepared to receive and ap-preciate classical literature. Having passed through the ordinary routine of studies at Cel-bridge and Londonderry, he entered the Dublin University in 1791, and almost immediately became distinguished as a sound and elegant

This was the "golden age" of the Dublin University; never was there a period in its history when science and polite literature were so ardently cultivated, and so closely united. Among Jebb's cotemporaries were Lloyd, the present Provost, Davenport, the unflinching advocate of liberal principles "when evil days came," Wray, Sandes, Sadlier, and Wall, now Fellows of the University, M. Mahon, Wallace, Torrens, Perrin, Blacker, and other ornaments of the Irish bar; with George Croly, and Charles Maturin, who have gained for them-selves a universal fame. In this galaxy of talent, Jebb shone not the least conspicuous; he won the honours of the University nobly, and he wore them unenvied, for his amiable temper, his kind heart, and his utter disregard of self, had endeared him to all. His success at the scholarship examination seemed to be a personal triumph by every member of the University but

These were the days of the HISTORICAL So-CIETY, of which Society Mr. Jebb was a distinguished member; and the charms of his eloquence are still among the pleasant reminiscences of cotemporaries. One only of his addresses has been preserved; it was delivered from the chair of the Society on the occasion of the death of two young men, Reid and Sargint, youths of high promise, cut off prematurely at the moment that the hopes and proud anticipations of their friends seemed about to be realized. Similarity of disposition and pursuits had united them to Jebb in the strictest bonds of affection, and he, who had to pronounce their funeral eulogy, was the person who felt their loss most bitterly. No stranger can read this simple and pathetic ad-

† Illustrations of the British Novelists, ‡ Peter Wilkins,

dress without being affected; but those along who heard it can picture the effect that its de-

livery produced.
In 1799, Mr. Jebb left the University, and an 1709, Mr. Jebb left the University, and was admitted to holy orders by Bishop Young, the predecessor of Dr. Lloyd in reforming the Science course in Dublin. But to his college life, Jebb looked back with fondness and regret; his eloquent assertion of its merits in the House of Lords, in 1824, is manifestly an outpouring of treasured affection, casting back "a longing, lingering look."

"The University," he said, "which, in its earliest days, produced Usher, the most profoundly-learned offspring and ornament of the Reformation; and Loftus, in oriental letters rivalled only by his great coeval Pococke, which afterwards sent forth, to shine among the foremost of our Augustan age, Parnell the chastest of our poets, Swift, the purest of our prose-writers, and Berkeley, the first of our metaphysicians; which formed, nearly in our own time, perhaps within the recollection of some noble lords who hear me, Goldsmith, our most natural depictor of life and manners; Burke, the greatest philosophic statesman of his own or any other age and country—and why should I not add, Grattan, the eloquent assertor of his country's rights, the parent of Irish independence?—The University which sent forth such men is not now degenerating, nor likely to degenerate, from her ancient rank and name, and needs not blush to be compared with either University of England."

For about five years Mr. Jebb continued curate of Swanlinbar; and, like Heber at Hod-nett, was universally beloved; by the Catholics he was revered as highly as by the Protestants; in works of charity he knew no religious difference, his spirit was too mild and gentle for acrimoni-ous controversy; he felt that sincere belief, though erroneous, was entitled to respect, and that violence, even in support of truth, injures the cause it professes to defend. In a letter to a theologian of a very different spirit, he says, "I do not think the controversial the best mode of bringing up children in the deep, serious, practical, heart-felt love of our true reformed Christianity. And I question, whether the early disputant on debated points may not, in riper years, be the most likely to waver or apostatize. The habit of argumentation is certainly not friendly to settlement of opinion, and he was a wise man who invented and bequeathed that maxim to posterity—disputandi pruritus ecclesi-arum scabies." Those who have witnessed the animosities, the heart-burnings, and even the deeds of actual violence, engendered and perpe-tuated by the fanatic zeal of controversial preachers in Ireland, can best understand what a blessing such a man as Jebb was in an Irish parish. Thirty years have elapsed since he quitted Swanlinbar, but the memory of his virtues is "still green in the souls" of his former parishioners.

The late Archbishop of Cashel, though not ossessed of very eminent abilities, was a shrewd judge of merit; he embraced the earliest opportunity of removing Jebb to his diocese, and he consulted him in his plans for rendering the Irish church more truly national. Great ob-scurity rests over this important project; it has been said, that the union of the rival churches of Rome and England was seriously contemplated, but to what extent the arrange ment of preliminaries was carried, it is difficult to discover. The proposal was recently renewed by Doctor Doyle, and the reception it met showed that the time is not yet ripe for the experiment. We do not know whether Dr. Jebb sanctioned the proposed union, but we regard it as not improbable.

In January 1823, Dr. Jebb was consecrated Bishop of Limerick. This diocese, one of the

most extensive in Ireland, contained in it some of the most miserable and disturbed districts. It had also its full share of neglected curates, and a slight sprinkling of negligent rectors. The gentle mind of Jebb seemed ill-calculated to encounter such a complication of difficulties, but he soon showed that mildness is not inconsistent with firmness, and that the meek, when principle is concerned, manifest a strength of resolution which cannot be shaken. The new Bishop declared that he would disregard aristocratic influence, and he kept his word; in bestowing pa-tronage his choice was guided by merit alone; the unostentatious claims of the working clergy were with him more powerful than the pressing solicitations of the great, and the curate who despaired of reward, because he had no patron, found that his labours were his best introduction, and his most powerful advocate the heart of his diocesan.

In 1824, Dr. Jebb, for the first, and, we believe, the last time, addressed the House of Lords; the professed object of his speech was the defence of the Irish Church, but he added to it a terrible exposure of the inhumanity of Irish landlords, resident and absentee. His name became at once popular in England; inquiries were made respecting his literary productions, their value for the first time was made known; and, at the same moment, he came into possession of the fame of an accomplished orator and

a sound theologian.

His original works are not numerous, but they are all of sterling merit; his sermons have the character attributed to the discourses of "him with the golden mouth" (Chrysostom), they meddle not with controversy, they abstain from mystery, but they inculcate "peace on from mystery, but they inclicate a peace of earth, good-will towards men." His 'Essay on Sacred Literature' is his most finished and va-lued performance; it is one of the finest specimens of sacred criticism in our language. discovery of a metrical structure in the hymns and discourses preserved by the Evangelists, at once affords a key to the interpretation of diffi-cult passages, and establishes their genuineness beyond all question. The learning displayed in the work will remind the reader of our Ushers, our Hookers, and our Taylors: nor does the resemblance stop there: in the rare union of rich fancy with simplicity of language, Jebb attained as high an eminence as those ancient worthies. 'Practical Theology' was his last original work; it contains Sermons, occasional Tracts, his Address to the Historical Society, and his Speech in the House of Lords; the great charm of these is the spirit of love breathing in every line; he remonstrates as a father with an erring child-he advises as a brother to a brother -- he reasons as a friend with a friend.

In 1827, Dr. Jebb was attacked by paralysis, from which he never perfectly recovered; but, notwithstanding his illness, he exerted himself to serve his brethren, by editing those works which he deemed most likely to serve the church of Ireland and the whole Christian community. With this design he published the Protestant Kempis, Townson's Sermons, Phelan's Remains, and Burnett's Lives. On the second edition of the last-mentioned work, he was occupied during his last illness, so that, like Bishop Ravenscroft, he may be said "to have died with his armour on." His death took place on the 7th of this month, in the 59th year of his age. The words of Doane's Requiem over Ravenscroft may well be applied to his kindred spirit:

The wise old man is gone!
His bonoured head lies low,
And his thoughts of power are done,
And his voice's manly flow;
And the year that for truth, like a sword was drawn,
Is still and soulless now.

The brave old man is gone!
With his armour on he fell:
Nor a groan, nor a sigh was drawn,
When his spirit fled to tell:

For mortal sufferings, keen and long, Had no power his heart to quell.

The good old man is gone!
He is gone to his saintly rest,
Where no sorrow can be known,
And no trouble can molest:
For his crown of life is won,
And the dead in the Lord are blest.

KING'S COLLEGE AND LONDON UNIVERSITY.

[Beino now satisfied that our correspondent (C.D.) is entitled to be heard, we publish his letter. It is, however, the last on this subject which can appear in the Athenaeum. The friends of both institutions may be assured that ample patronage will reward exertion; and we understand, that already the annual receipts at both more than cover the annual expenses. We may add, as it materially affects both, that it is, we believe, now decided that degrees shall be conferred in London, not by either the London University or King's College, but on the students from either, by a Board to be specially appointed.] cially appointed.]

To the Editor of the Athenaum.

SIR,—As a subscriber to King's College, I have been induced to make particular inquiry into the statements contained in the letter of A. B., inserted in your paper of Saturday last; and, as a result of my inquiry, I beg leave to submit the following statement of facts:—

leave to submit the following statement of facts:—
The number of Medical Students at King's College,
stated in the Report, was, I understand, made up from
the actual members who applied for, and were admitted to, attendance in each class during the academical
year; and I am informed, that to the 615 students
therein stated, are yet to be added fourteen more, who
entered between the 30th of April 1833, (the date of
the Council's Report,) and the close of June, when the
year terminated.

The Column's report, and the Medical Department averaged 10t. 3s. 4d. from each pupil, and not 4t., as stated by A.B.
Whatever may have been the number of students

actually attending any given class, on the day which A.B. refers to, (and it would have been well if he had given the precise date,) the actual number, to whom tickets of admission have been issued for this year's attendance in the classes which he names, and who are now attending them, is as follows:—

Anatomy												132
Demonstrations												130
Chemistry												140
Widwifery												98
Medical Jurispre	u	d	e	n	c	e						63

statement.

The University of London has been three years longer in operation than King's College, and therefore double the time; but the number of Medical Students has not been doubled, much less more than trebled, as A. B.'s statement would lead the public to infer. Presuming his figures to be correct, the real facts then stand thus:—

		K. COLL,
Anatomy	 224	132
Demonstrations	 213	130
Chemistry	 171	140
Midwifery	 49	98
Medical Jurisprudence	 45	63

A. B. has omitted to add, in the general comparison towards the conclusion of his letter, the 196 Occasional Students in General Science and Literature at King's College.

With regard to the Junior Schools, there must be With regard to the Junior Schoo's, there must be reason why, if the terms of the two establishments vary so materially, the school at the London University should not have a far greater number of pupils than its competitor. The public, over whom neither Institution possesses any controul, have in this matter freely judged for themselves. As to German and Drawing, I have reason to believe that the conductors of King's College have long since made arrangements for the gratuitous instruction of the pupils in both, and are about to carry them into effect. The last Report from the Council of the London University states, that their School is assembled only five hours. At King's College School, it is assembled five hours in winter, and six hours in summer; with no half-bolidays but on Saturdays.

A. B.'s comparative statement of the terms of these schools, is, however, not quite correct. The non-nomi-

A. B.'s comparative statement of the terms of these schools, is, however, not quite correct. The non-nomination fee does not, I find, attach to the pupils generally, but to less than a sixth part of the 305 boys; and as the same quantity, though a different quality, of instruction is given at the school of King's College as at that of the London University, the charge for German and Drawing cannot justly be added. The sum of II. Is, is not charged for stationery. Deducting, therefore, the items which are improperly attached to the terms of King's College School, the comparison of

the general terms of both establishments will stand as UNIVERSITY. Entrance fee (paid once).... Yearly fee......£15 0 0 Stationery..... 0 10 6 £15 15 0 0 14 0 £15 10 6 (Or for the first year of King's College, 171. 10s.) I am, Sir, Your obedient Servant, C. D. Dec. 11, 1833.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP ON LITERATURE AND ART.

Two volumes of Goethe's Correspondence with Zelter, from which so much has been anticipated, have arrived. Zelter was an architect and musical composer of some celebrity, tect and musical composer of some century, at Berlin, who kept up an uninterrupted correspondence with Goethe, from 1796, until the death of the latter in 1832, and only survived death of the latter in 1832, and only survived death. "The first the termination of it a month. "The first Saturday (the day on which he usually received his letters) after Goethe's death," says Prince Pückler Muskau, in a private letter to Mrs. Austin, "he became dejected and silent; the second found him ill; on the third, death softly led him to rejoin his immortal friend." In fact, the most unreserved confidence existed between them; and, from a very cursory perusal, we should say, that these letters afford the best materials for forming a true estimate of the mind and heart of Goethe, that have ever yet been laid before the public. There is also a good deal of curious literary information and many anecdotes scattered through them; and Zelter's own remarks on music will be read with great pleasure and improvement by the amateur, The publication was authorized by the letterwriters, and Goethe himself appointed Dr. Riemer (who appears to have discharged his task with taste and ability,) to the editorship.
The translation has been undertaken by Mrs.
Austin; but we should recommend her to abridge considerably.

A new edition of Mr. Hayward's translation

of Goethe's Faust, to which will be appended an Analysis of the Continuation, and an historical notice of the Tradition of Faust, with an account of the various productions in art and literature that have been founded upon it, is

literature that many now in the press.
Sheridan Knowles's play, 'The Hunchback,' has been translated into German, and performed with complete success. The Emperor and Royal Family have been twice to

The government has of late been winning golden opinions from all men connected with literature. The Lord Chancellor lately obtained a small pension for the eminent Dalton: Mr. Godwin has been appointed to a place, the duties of which are easy to fulfil, while its salary places him above want: and Earl Grey, we see by the Scotsman, has restored the royal pension of one hundred pounds to Dr. Jamieson, the learned author of the Scottish Dictionary.—We are grieved to hear that the widow of Bloomfield, the poet, is suffering under the threefold visitation, of old age, want, and weakness of mind: this should not be permitted.

Death has deprived the world of an amiable man

and clever writer. Mr. Thomas Atkinson, author of the 'Chamelion,' and other popular works, left England in a deep decline, and on the 10th of October, died on his way to Barbadoes, nineteen days after he sailed from Liverpool. When we saw him last, he was much wasted—Death was with him dealing—he felt this, and spoke calmly about it, and said he hoped he should die at sea, and be committed to the waves, for he preferred that to lying on a foreign shore. He was, in many respects, a remarkable person-he was the architect of his own fortune-active, skilful, and enterprising

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in business. As a writer, he was possessed of a great deal of varied information. There is considerable purity in his prose, and ease and harmony in his poetry; and his criticisms were all distinguished for good feeling.

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SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY

ROYAL SOCIETY. Dec. 19 .- Mr. Brunell in the chair .- A memoir from Captain Ross, of the discovery of the North Magnetic Pole, was read. He began by stating the importance attached to the solution of this difficult and perplexing problem, assignof this afficial and perplexing problem, assigning as the chief impediments to its investigation hitherto, the unequal distribution of magnetic influence, and the difficulty of approaching the magnetic foci. Great advances, however, had been made; Professor Faraday all but demonstrated in the contract of the contract strated the identity of magnetism and electricity; the observations of Sabine, Franklin, Parry, Foster, &c., had shown in what direction the point of magnetic concentricity was to be sought. Before leaving England, Captain Ross had obtained from the Admiralty a dipping needle, constructed by Jones, whose accuracy had been tested in previous expeditions. From some de-fect in the vertical circle, the observations made prior to 1831, are not very perfect, but that defect was remedied when discovered. The table of observations showed, that the differences of observations were remarkable and great, but they also proved the tendency of errors to correct each other. When, from these observations, the direction in which the magnetic pole should be sought had been determined with tolerable precision, it was feared that it could only be approached by a land journey, the accomplishment of which was beyond the limited powers of the expedition. But these fears were dispelled by the discovery of the Great Western Ocean. The party first sent to explore, brought back only some imperfect indications of the object of their search, because they could only take with them a small supply of instruments but when it appeared that another winter should necessarily be spent in these regions, Captain Ross made the necessary preparations for a nore accurate survey. In May, 1831, he landed on the coast, and by a series of observations determined the place of the magnetic meridian, and, at least approximately, the position of the Magnetic Pole. Captain Ross detailed, minutely, all the tests used to determine that the place where he stood was the point of magnetic concentricity, and, so far as the evidence of instru-ments is decisive, the fact of the discovery was established. But he candidly added, that further investigations, and more especially accurate observations to the north-west and south-west of the place indicated, are necessary, to ascertain the limits of error. These investigations he deemed an object worthy of national attention, because magnetism was peculiarly a British science. Besides ascertaining the position of the pole, it would be also of importance to determine its diurnal and annual motion, and its periodic variations, if any such exist. The place ascertained to be either the precise spot, or one in its immediate vicinity, was easily attainable; and he expressed his hopes that the British flag would soon wave on the Magnetic Pole. In the course of this interesting paper, Captain Ross paid a merited compliment to the generous and liberal conduct of Felix Booth, Esq., by whose aid chiefly, the gallant officer was enabled to proceed on his important enterprise.

A memoir on the quantity and quality of the gas disengaged from the King's Spring, at Bath, by Professor Daubeny, was then read. The subject of the gas evolved by thermal springs, has long engaged the attention of Professor Daubeny, and he visited Bath for the purpose of accurately investigating the spring that sup-

plies the King's and Queen's Baths in that city, a spring that discharges 126 gallons of water per minute. He caused a large funnel six feet square, of sheet iron, rendered air tight, to be prepared, and for more than a month accurately measured the quantity of gas that escaped from its orifice, when applied to the water. The mean result was, that 264 cubic inches escaped on the average per minute; the greatest quantity in any one minute was 530, the least 80; the mean rate of variation was from 339 to 107; the result appeared to be, that 223 cubic feet of gas are evolved every 24 hours. Dr. Daubeny considered the ebullition of gas as essential to thermal springs as any of their other properties. It is observed in the hot springs of every geological formation; and those of Greece and Lesser Asia, to which allusions are made by ancient writers, preserve, as recent travellers have observed, this characteristic fea-

ture to the present day. Dr. Daubeny conjectured that this gas may be posited in some rock placed deep in the earth, heated at some very distant period; the exterior part, cooling first, would create a presexterior part, cooling first, would create a pressure on the rocky cave, and force the gas out through its orifices. The tables showed that there was a flux and reflux, almost periodic, in the quantities of gas evolved. For this, Dr. Daubeny did not pretend to account, but it certainly seemed to be independent of atmospheric. ressure. The proportions in which oxygen, nitrogen, and carbon appeared, were presented in a tabular form: neither carburetted nor phos-phoretted hydrogen had been detected; the large proportion in which nitrogen appeared, proved that it was not derived from atmospheric air; and the absence of inflammable fluids equally negatived the theory recently started, that the nitrogen might have been derived from decayed animal or vegetable substances. The Society adjourned to the 9th of January.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.

Dec. 18.—Col. Leake, in the chair.—A paper by Mr. Tomlinson was read, on the inscriptions upon the two obelisks of block basalt, in the British Museum. These beautiful monuments of Egyptian art, which now stand near the cele-brated sarcophagus, called the tomb of Alexan-der, were erected by the Pharaoh Horus of the der, were erected by the Pharaoh Horus of the 22nd or Bubastic dynasty, whom Mr. Tomlinson, in a paper lately read before the Society, proved to have been the original occupant of that sarcophagus. They were set up in honour of the God Thoth, in the city of Heliopolis; the inscriptions (of which translations were given). contain little else but magnificent titles bestowed upon Horus and his tutelary deity. From this circumstance, and the similarly futile character of many other specimens which have been published, the writer inferred that the notions formerly entertained of the value of these monuments, as records of Egyptian science, were merely empty speculations, which must give way to the progress of truth and of sound philo-logical knowledge.

Mr. Wilkinson read a detailed account of his discovery of the contrivances by means of which the celebrated statue of Memnon was rendered vocal, of which discovery a notice appeared in the Atheneum, in a recent report of one of the Society's meetings. Among the numerous inscriptions left by the visitors to the Colossus, and which have been learnedly illustrated by M. Letronne, in a memoir published in the Society's Transactions, and more largely in a recent vo-lume of that eminent savan, is one by Julia Ballillat, who compares the sound emitted by the statue to the striking of brass, ώς χαλκοῖο τυπέντος.
Mr. Wilkinson had remarked the metallic quality of the sound produced by a blow on the stone fixed within the breast of Memnon, before his

† Not Balbilla, as given by M. Letronne.

attention was drawn to this description. On a subsequent visit to Thebes (in 1830), he was struck with this confirmation of his opinion, regarding the means used for the deception; and he determined on ascertaining if it could be heard by persons stationed near the base, and if any one, totally unacquainted with the history of the statue, would there perceive the metallic ring of the stone. The experiment was ac-cordingly tried upon some Theban peasants, who knew nothing of the nature of the inscription, and were ignorant of the motive with which they were placed below. On being asked if they heard anything, these persons replied, "You are striking brass," and the exact similarity of this answer to the testimony of Julia Ballilla completed the conviction on the writer's mind

completed the conviction on the writer's mind as to the identity of the sound, and the means formerly used to practise the deception.

The name of Memnon was unknown to the Egyptian priests. The Colossus represents Amenoph III., a Theban or Diospolite monarch, the ninth king of the eighteenth dynasty; and the misnomer appears to have originated in the ignorance of those credulous and uninquiring silver when he we dight analogs of sound were visitors, who, by a slight analogy of sound, were led into the error of converting the Theban Amenoph into the Memnon of Homer, in the same manner as the Egyptian Taba was softened into the Grecian Thebes, and as the tomb of a Rameses, who chanced to have the title of Meiamun, was, with equal facility, ascribed to the fabulous Ethiopian.

A further portion of Professor Schlegel's paper,
'On the Origin of the Hindoos,' was also read;
it comprised his chapter relative to the physical characteristics of that race.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

Dec. 12.—Hudson Gurney, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—The reading of Mr. Bruce's interesting communication, on the History of the Star Chamber, was concluded, and the gravity of the Society disturbed by an amusing, though not very original, story of a friar getting himself well very original, story of a friar getting innised wear beaten by a young man, whose inheritance the ghostly father was attempting surreptitiously to defraud him of, by practising upon the speech-less incapacity of his dying parent.

Mr. Davies Gilbert exhibited a piece of

shaped whinstone, of a somewhat irregular, but tending to a conical form, pierced through near the small end; it was found lately near the Land's End, and was evidently intended as a measure of weight. Of what period it was, or to what people it belonged, there is nothing what-

Dec. 19 .- Hudson Gurney, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Sir H. Ellis read a communication from George Saunders, Esq., a Fellow of the Society, on the boundaries or limits of Westminster. These, it appears, have varied considerably in the course of our history. At one time West-minster consisted of but one parish,—that of St. Margaret, but then the parish of St. Margaret extended from Tyburn on the west, to Ditch on the east, and from the Oxford Road and Holborn on the north, to the Thames. Of this extensive district, the abbot and monks of Westminster were almost the sole proprietors, Westminster were almost the sole proprietors, and wherever they acquired property, it was brought within their parish,—and thus Westbourne, and other outlying places, came to form parts of the parish of St. Margaret, Westminster. Before the formation of a city in Westminster, the city of London obtained an extension of its boundary westward, in St. Margaret's, up to Temple Bar. The parishes of St. Clement Danes, and of the Blessed Mary in the Strand, were afterwards taken out of St. Margaret's; and more lately, the formation of the parish of and more lately, the formation of the parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields out of St. Margaret's, again divided the country from the town of Westminster, The parishes of St. Paul, Covent

Garden, St. Ann, Soho, and St. George, Hanover Square, were subsequently formed out of the great country division, leaving St. Martin's its present limits. Many interesting etymolo-gies of names of places within the district, occur in the course of the paper, which will form a valuable addition to the forthcoming volume of the Society's Tracts on Archæologia.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

WE now give at greater length, the substance of the very interesting communication made to this Society at its last meeting, by our distin-

guished countryman, Captain Burnes.

Captain Burnes left Bombay in December, 1830, charged with a mission to the Court of Runjeet Sing, at Lahore, which he was directed to convey, if possible, up the Indus, that he might at the same time examine the navig-able course of that river. In this, accordingly, he eventually succeeded, after some difficulty and delay interposed by the jealousy of the Ameers, or Rulers of Sinde, who command both banks of the river for the first 500 miles of its course. He then visited in succession Tatta, situated 70 miles up the Indus, at the head of the Delta, through which it discharges itself into the sea by eleven mouths, the outermost of which are 125 miles apart-Hyderabad, the present capital of Sinde, but not containing above 20,000 inhabitants—Sehroun, an ancient for-tress, probably of the time of Alexander—Bukstrong fort built on an island in the Indus, 300 miles from its mouth—Roree, nearly opposite to Bukhur, where the banks are 40 feet high, and so precipitous, that the inhabi-tants draw water from the river out of their windows — Sukkur, nearly opposite Roree— Moultan, where the waters of the Punjab join the Indus in one stream—and finally Lahore, a city containing 80,000 inhabitants, and the military capital of the Sikhs; their commercial capital, Amritan, being still larger, and said to contain 120,000 inhabitants. Here he was introduced to Runjeet Sing, the celebrated chief of the Sikhs, by whom he was so well re-ceived, that he now conceived the idea of penetrating, with his countenance and assistance, through Caubul, in a direction north-west, into Tartary,—the route attempted some years ago by the late Mr. Moorcroft, but under the fatigues of which he and his party had sunk; nor had any Englishman ever succeeded in traversing it. Full of this idea, he accordingly repaired to the head-quarters of the Governor-General Lord William Bentinck, then at Simla, at the foot of the Himalaya; -and having obtained his full concurrence and approbation, returned to Delhi, to complete his preparations, and thence again to Lahore in February, 1832, accompanied by Dr. James Gerard, also of the East India Com-pany's Service, who had volunteered to follow his fortunes. They remained here two months, till the passes in the mountains were nearly open, and at the same time assumed the dress and habits of Asiatics, not with a view to absolute disguise, which they considered nearly, if not quite impossible, but to avoid vulgar observation, and the chance of offending the native prejudices.

In April they set forth, and proceeded first to Ramnuggur, where they crossed the Acesinus, and thence to Pindee Dadun Khan, to examine a remarkable salt range, called the Zylum, which extends in a direction N.W. and S.E., causing a break or step in the country of nearly 500 feet height, and extensively worked in many places, especially at Pindee Dadun Khan, where the salt is embarked on the Hydaspes, in country boats, called zohruks, some of which exceed 100 feet in length, and carry 500 maunds. The salt is of a red colour, in layers five or six feet thick, and alternated with clay. Turning hence directly east, and ascending consequently the Zylum, they left the productions of the Indus

behind, and entered on a vast plain, extending quite to the base of the Himalaya range, and abounding in the grain and fruits of Europe.

At a place called Raivil Pindee on this plain,

they visited some very remarkable ruins, of the Grecian form of architecture, and about which they procured a number of coins bearing Greek inscriptions; and thence deflecting again to the north-west, they forded the Indus a few miles above Attock, where the river is spread out to a great breadth, and intersected by many islands, between which the current does not exceed three miles an hour, and the depth is not greater than breast high,—while, at Attock itself, to which they next proceeded, the breadth does not exceed 240 yards, the depth is 35 fathoms, and the current runs at the rate of ten miles an

Leaving Attock, a place of great strength, our travellers next proceeded to Peshawur, and thus gradually increased their elevation above the level of the sea, from 1000 feet at Lahore, to 1700 and 1800 at Attock and Peshawur. The ascent hence, however, to Caubul was much more rapid, that city being 6600 feet above the level of the sea, and enjoying a most delicious climate, with all the finest European fruits in great perfection in its gardens. In one only Captain Burnes saw the apple, pear, quince, peach, apricot, walnut, Spanish chesnut, thirteen kinds of grapes, gooseberries, strawberries, melons, &c. The chief, Dost Mahomed, is distinguished for the protection which he affords to trade; and our travellers now, in consequence, joined a large caravan, preparing to proceed to Bokhara so soon as the passes in the Hindoo Koorh should become passable. Several of the merchants in this caravan were bound to Russia, and the intercourse in this direction Captain Burnes was led to believe frequent and almost regular.

On the 16th of May the caravan set out, not, however, taking the great pass of the Hindoo Koorh, which, though the shorter road, is only passable for three months in the height of the summer season; but, by the passes of Kohee-Baba and Bahmian, which are six in number, the country ascending from Caubul, and descending into Tartary on each side of the ridge, at nearly an equal rate of sixty feet per mile. The three highest passes are at an elevation respectively of 8,000, 12,400, and 13,000 feet; and the sublimity of the scenery is beyond descrip-tion, the snowy summits of Hindoo Koorh on the one hand, and Kohee-Baba on the other, appearing almost to hang over the passes, and rising from 5,000 to 8,000 feet above them. The descent into the plain of Tartary from these passes is also of the most singular and almost appalling description, being along a narrow valley, about 250 yards wide, bounded on each side by limestone cliffs, many hundred feet high, and so precipitous, as literally to exclude the sun at mid-day. Captain Burnes thus travelled above seventy miles, without either seeing the sun or pole-star, so as to obtain an observation

The whole range of the Hindoo Koorh is entirely destitute of wood,—in this, presenting a striking contrast to the Himalaya, which, at a similar elevation, is clothed with pines, oaks, and cedars. In many places it is also destitute of verdure; but, when this is not the case, the plants are aromatic, and the assafætida and wild rhubarb are especially abundant. The geological character of both ranges is nearly the same, the peaks being granitic, below which are found, in succession, micaceous schist, limestone, con-glomerate, &c. Boulders of granite are widely spread over the plains on both sides, large fragments frequently breaking away from the mountain tops, and doing great mischief: but the stones in the conglomerate itself are all limestone, not fragments of granite; -a circumstance, perhaps, of some importance in theorizing on the successions exhibited in the range.

Khoolen was the first town in the plain of Tartary reached by our travellers, and here, for the first time also, they encountered some serious molestation. The Khan of Khoondooz, a bandit chief of considerable power and influence in this neighbourhood, and who had formerly arrested Mr. Moorcroft on his journey, and compelled him to pay a ransom of 23,000 rupees, now in like manner captured Captain Burnes, and carried him off to Khoondooz, on the Oxus, about 100 miles-east of Khoolen, Deceived, however, by his appearance of poverty, he eventually released him; and this act of violence, though it caused him great act of violence, though it caused nim great anxiety, merely extended his knowledge of this country. From Khoolen, a small town, and of little importance, unless as a station for caravans issuing from the mountains, the party proceeded to Balkh, once a great city, but now almost deserted, from the insalubrity of its air. They thence crossed the Oxus at Khojusalu, about sixty miles north of Balkh, where it is about 900 yards wide, with a medium depth of sixteen feet, and rate of current under three miles an hour. The river is crossed in boats, to which horses are yoked, which tow them across, The plan answers remarkably well, and seems to require no previous training of the horses: those which had been rode by Captain Burnes and Dr. Gerard, from Lahore, proving equally serviceable in this way with the others.

At Bokhara, where they next arrived, our travellers remained two months, having, after encountering some preliminary difficulties, been most graciously received, and effectively protected by the Grand Vizier, who recommended them, however, again to change their dresses, and adopt the Tartar sheep-skin cap and woollen coat, which they accordingly did. The city of Bokhara is of great extent, the walls being eight miles in extent, and the population 160,000, by whom a great trade is maintained with China, India, Persia, and Russia. Mosques and other public buildings are also very numerous and splendid; the climate is agreeable, the people wealthy, and not suspicious, and the country immediately adjoining, fertile and productive. In nearly all these respects it contrasts advantageously with the neighbouring, and once famous, city of Samarcand, which is little more than a mass of ruins, not reckoning above 20,000 inhabitants. The elevation of this part of the plain of Tartary above the sea is

about 1700 feet.

Quitting Bokhara, the travellers re-crossed the Oxus at Chanjui, which is erroneously laid down in most maps, being exactly in 39° south latitude. Even in this parallel, however, the river occasionally freezes over, to the great annoyance of the ferryman at Chanjui, who last year made a formal complaint on the subject to the Grand Vizier at Bokhara, and requested that passengers, even though crossing on the ice, should be compelled to pay him his fare. The reply of the Vizier is worth quoting:-he said, that if the ferryman would make himself responsible for the safety of passengers on the thus perish, his request should be complied with, but not otherwise." From Chanjui the party now plunged into the great desert of Khorasan, (a sea of sand, raised occasionally into hillocks, but moveable with the least breath of wind,) and travelled over this waste, on camels, to Mushed, passing near Merve, but not visiting it. At Mushed they separated, Dr. Gerard returning to India by Herat and Candahar, but Captain Burnes again striking off into the desert, and merely following the course of the river Attruck to the eastern shore of the Caspian Sea. track he found somewhat firmer than what he had previously traversed, and girdled in (as far by a low n the Caspia our maps, between A From A southern : then reac early sou Tehran, Is at this latt and Musc seven mor We hav abstract 1 dotes with effect of 1 umstance which he Vizier of the party ever, we med was and almo possessio Quintus (enabled parisons. shire was course of and the r vince of t the same fish-eater very inte

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GEG Dec. 1 Presiden Charles Spicer, I Fellows. Romley Clee Hil by Capt derick la geologica the Indi line of Ispahan, districts widely e moir was series of

Dec. 1 sents of Madagas the last brought gentlem: Society Society exhibite of the D the Cani ing. C maneles he descr lity. N Mr. Ma Hodgso lia of N evening

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as he could learn at least, to the bay of Balkh), by a low mountain range, which divides it from the Caspian. This range does not appear in our maps, but is constantly crossed by caravans between Astrabad and Khiva.

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From Astrabad Captain Burnes followed the muthern shore of the Caspian as far as Saree, then reached the Elburz chain in a direction nearly south, and proceeding through Persia by Tehran, Ispahan, Shiraz, and Bushire, embarked at this latter port, and, having touched at Ormus and Muscat, returned to Bombay, after twenty-

seven months absence. We have been compelled to leave out of this abstract many of the highly interesting anecdotes with which Captain Burnes increased the effect of his narrative, -in particular, the circumstances of Mr. Moorcroft's tragical fate, which he learned at Balkh, and of the Grand Vizier of Bokhara's reception and dismissal of the party. His concluding observations, however, we shall quote; 1. The line of route pursned was almost identically that of Alexander, and almost the only books in Captain Burnes' possession were small copies of Arrian and Quintus Curtius, so that at every step he was enabled to institute the most interesting comparisons. 2. The return to Bombay from Bushire was, for a considerable distance, also the course of Alexander's fleet, under Nearchus; and the name Mehran, now given to the prothe same signification with that ancient term, viz. fish-eaters .- The thanks of the Society were voted to Captain Burnes, by acclamation, for his

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

very interesting account.

Dec. 18.—George Bellas Greenough, Esq., President, in the chair. — Lieut.-Col. Clive, Charles D. O. Jephson, Esq., M.P., Charles Spieer, Esq., and Dr. MacDougle, were elected

The first communication read was by Mr. Romley Wright, on the geology of the Brown Clee Hill, in Shropshire; and the second, was by Capt. Burnes, and communicated by Roderick Impey Murchison, Esq., on the physical geological structure of the banks of the Indus, geological structure of the banks of the man, the Indian Caucasus, the plains of Tartary, the line of country between Astrabad, Teheran, Ispahan, Shiraz, and Busheer, and the other districts visited by the author during his late widely extended travels in the East. The me-moir was illustrated by maps, sections, and the series of specimens collected by Capt. Burnes.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Dec. 10 .- The Secretary, in referring to presents of Chamelions and other animals from Madagascar, then on the table, received from Mr. Charles Telfair, expressed his regret that the last accounts from the Mauritius had brought the unwelcome intelligence, that this gentleman, the Secretary of the Natural History Society there, was dead, and the Zoological Society had lost in him a most liberal contributor and valuable correspondent.-Col. Sykes exhibited the skin and cranium of the wild dog of the Deccan, and pointed out its identity with the Canis primevus exhibited on a former evening. Capt. Walter Smee exhibited skins of a maneless lion of large size from Guzerat, which he described as peculiar to a very limited locality. Notes on the anatomy of the Grison, by Mr. Martin, were read; and a portion of Mr. Hodgson's interesting paper on the Mammalia of Nepaul, concluded the business of the evening.

Westminster Medical Society, Dec. 1.—Since our last report, the subject of Medical Reform has occupied the attention of this Society. The meetings have been very crowded, and the debates animated and interesting. A series of

resolutions have been passed, declaratory of the necessity for improvements in the several medical incorporations, as well as to pledge the Society by their council to petition the legislature for a parliamentary inquiry, in the ensuing session. The discussion was concluded at the sitting of last Saturday.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK. Mox. { Royal Geographical Society.....Nine, P.M. Medical SocietyEight, P.M. Tues. { Zoological Society (Scientific Business) ... 1 p. 8, P.M.

Cambridge Philosophical Society.—At the meeting held on Monday week, Dr. Clark, one of the Vice-Presidents, in the chair, there was read a memoir by Professor Moseley, of King's College, London, On the general conditions of the equilibrium of a system of variable form; and on the theory of equilibrium, settle-ment, and fall of the arch.' Professor Farish made a statement concerning a splendid meteor, resembling a falling star, observed by him on the 26th of September last, at a quarter before seven in the evening. If any other gentleman has observed the bearing of the star, it may solve an interesting problem hitherto very little understood. The star appeared at first nearly as large as the Moon, but before it got to the horizon, it was reduced to almost a thread. It continued in the same verticle, without altering its bearing at all, and was visible about two seconds .- Professor Sedgwick gave an account, illustrated by maps and sections, of the geological structure of Charnwood Forest, in Leicestershire, and of the neighbourhood. He observed that the secondary strata in the neighbourhood of this group of primary rocks appear in a very regular and undisturbed position; the new red sandstone, lias, and oolites succeeding each other in the usual order; that therefore the attempts recently made to obtain coal by sinking through the terrace of Billesdon Coplow, the outcrop of the inferior oolite, must necessarily end in disappointment and loss. He stated also that "the forest" consisted of masses of granite, syenite, porphyry, and grauwacke slate; of which the slate was clearly stratified; the stratification having reference to an anticlinal line of elevation; the direction of this line being about N. W. and s. E. and the slate rocks dipping from it to the N. E. and s.w. The disturbance produced along this line may be further traced, on the N. w. of the forest, in the inclined position of several detached masses of mountain limestone, which stand like islands in the plain of the red marl; dipping, on the whole, towards the s.w. so as to pass under the coal measures of the Ashby de la Zouch field; and therefore to be considered as a prolongation of the s.w. side of the Charn-wood forest saddle. The granite occupies the skirts of the forest on the east, south, and west. This communication gave rise to observations from several other members .- Cambridge Chron.

THEATRICALS

ADELPHI.

This house is crowded nightly with horror-hunters; and, it must be admitted, that they find game in plenty. Another piece of misery, called 'The Victim,' has been produced, and its success shows that the audiences are delighted with their wretchedness. Never did people enjoy anguish more. It is quite a melancholy pleasure to see how happily uncomfortable they are. We fear, however, that their taste for common crimes and punishments will soon be spoiled; that they will get nice in their murders, and choice in their executions. We have a suggestion or two to make, for the benefit of the management, against the time when that difficulty shall arrive; -make a bargain with go-

vernment-buy a real malefactor-compensate the public functionary, through whose hands he would have to pass, for the loss of his official fees, and hang him on the stage. Perhaps, also, it would not be bad to have a few real accidents, and to let the surgical operations, consequent upon them, be performed in sight of the audience; and then, to keep the house in good humour, suppose a neighbouring butcher were employed to kill a few sheep between the acts. We say these things in perfect good-humour with a management which is excelled by none in with a management which is excelled by none in its earnest desire to please the public; and we take this mode of giving a hint, in preference to doing it in that more grave way, which the sub-ject almost demands from us. At present, we will abstain from further comment on the nature and tendency of the greater number of the pieces produced here this season; but, if the same style be persisted in, we really must instigate some member of parliament to move to amend the act, that disqualifies persons following certain trades, which habituate them to the blood, from sitting on juries in cases of life and death, by adding thereto "all persons accustomed to attend the Adelphi theatre."

OLYMPIC.

"ANOTHER and another still succeeds," may be taken as a fair motto for any account of the novelties at this house, whether with reference to quantity or quality. 'The Welsh Girl,' an elegant and pleasant vaudeville, produced on Monday, is the last of them. The plot is as simple as a Welsh melody—but it is as touching too, and, like those sweet things, it goes straight to the heart. The dialogue is in keeping with the plot-unaffected and unpretending, yet easy and natural. Madame Vestris acts with much spirit and neatness, and gives the Welsh airs in a style which no singer now on the boards can surpass, or even equal. Mr. F. Matthews plays a "Gouty Old Commodore" remarkably well. This performer is rapidly rising in public estimation-and it is but just that he should do so. Possessed of much talent, backed at all times by industry, he wanted nothing but opportunity, and this the secession of another clever and versatile actor (Mr. Webster) has given him. Mrs. Tayleure, a steady and genuine actress of a right good school, and one of the few who may put artist as well as actress after their names, personates a Welsh woman admirably. Mr. J. Bland has a small part, which he makes the most of. The good reception which 'The Welsh Girl' would have experienced from any audience, was heightened almost to enthusiasm on the first night, by the presence of a vast number of honest Cambrians, who rushed through all the bad weather to listen to the airs of their native mountains. We reverence the feelings which prompted them to go, and never witness a similar display without a sense of mortification, that we belong to the only nation under the canopy of heaven which thinks it "hawridly awnfeshionable" to be national. The author, or rather authoress, of 'The Welsh Girl' is Mrs. Planché, the wife of the well-known dramatist, and its success will, doubtless, lead her to new efforts. There are no people in the world, as a body, so shrewd and so clever as theatrical critics. This is a fact so well known, and so universally admitted by them-selves, that it does not stand in need of our testimony. We shall proceed to give a proof of our own individual penetration. The words of the vaudeville airs in this piece are excellent—and for point, humour, and closeness, run our Gallie neighbours hard upon this, their own peculiar ground, notwithstanding the immense advantage which their more epigrammatic language gives them. Now, it is our opinion, that these written by Mr. Planché. To prove how sharp we are, we will give the reasons on which our opinion is formed. First of all, we have no other

dramatic writer who has so great an aptitude for this particular sort of writing; and next, we happen to know the fact, that they were written

MISCELLANEA

The Miscellany of Natural History.—We beg to refer our readers to our advertising columns of this day, for the most original mode of reply to a critical article that has come within our experience. The article is our review of the 'Miscellany of Natural History'; the mode of reply is by a string of AFFIDAVITS! It will be seen that these affidavits are meant to rebut only one of our charges—viz. that the design of the work is stolen';—it will also be seen that they in no way affect the truth of that charge. Both may be true. Captain Brown has "compeared" before Mr. Baillie Waugh, and sworn that three years since he had conceived the design of "A series of illustrated works on Natural History, in a size similar to the 'Miscellany of Natural History,' and at a cheap rate." Captain Brown has given himself and Mr. Baillie Waugh a great deal of unnecessary trouble; we should just as readily have admitted all this on his simple assertion, more particularly as we think we could point out balf-a-dozen gentlemen amongst our acquaintance, who have projected "cheap and illustrated works on Natural History" within the same period. But this general design might have been put into execution in five hundred different ways, as to form, appearance, typography, manner of illustration, mode of ar-ranging and treating the subject, to say nothing of the peculiar feature of giving with each num-ber a portrait of a naturalist, and sketch of his life and Captain Brown has not sworn that his design extended to all these matters of detail, in which, nevertheless, we showed a perfect identity with the 'Naturalist's Library. our argument,—founded on facts which it is not attempted to deny, and inferred with a fairness which it is not attempted to impugn .- A statement made in Captain Brown's affidavit, that he had formerly communicated his ideas on this subject to Mr. Lizars, would appear to insinuate the charge, that the design of the 'Naturalist's Library' might thus have been stolen from him. This is a matter with which we have no concern; we are equally indifferent and unknown to Mr. Lizars as to Captain Brown, to Sir William Jardine as to Sir Thomas Dick Lauder.

Royal Asiatic Society .- We are happy to learn that the beneficial influence of this Institution is spreading itself in a most desirable manner, diffusing among the native population of India a taste for literary and scientific pursuits, on the principles laid down for its own guid-ance. This remark has been called forth, by intelligence, which has just reached us from Madras, of the formation of a Society there, composed altogether of natives, for the pro-motion of the objects of the Royal Asiatic Society, and in conjunction with it, it being, in fact, intended to form a branch of that Society. At a moment when all other accounts from this quarter describe the extremity of distress under which a very large portion of the population are suffering, from long-continued drought, it is not a little remarkable to see such a feeling exhibiting itself, unsubdued, as it were, by misfortune, and rising superior to the adverse circumstances surrounding it. The Madras Native Branch Society already numbers in its ranks upwards of two hundred of the most opulent and respectable native gentlemen; and it is confidently expected that the desire to have their names enrolled as members, will shortly extend itself throughout the territories of the Madras presidency. We conceive this to be a subject of much importance, and the success of the experiment is highly desirable, for in this way the better energies of the native will be brought into action; he will learn to estimate correctly his own abilities and talents, when they are brought before the tribunal of public opinion; education will have a truly legitimate object—the prize of lite-rary and scientific fame, honours, and emoluments, the rewards of superior talent and cultivated intellect; indeed, we cannot contemplate this indication of an elevated tone of feeling among our native fellow subjects in the East, without conceiving the most pleasing anticipations; and anxiously do we hope that similar results may emanate from the proceedings of the Royal Asiatic Society in every other part of

Metropolitan Society of Florists and Amateurs, Dec. 19.—A meeting of this association was held at the Crown and Anchor, for an exhibition of winter flowers. Upon the whole the display was far from remarkable for beauty: we, however, observed a noble specimen of Cypripedium insigne, from Messrs. Rollisson's, for which the principal medal was awarded. There were also ome handsome greenhouse plants from Messrs. Chandler and Henderson, for which medals of an inferior class were given.

Luc-noi-nam, or the Swimming Child.—The following is contained in an account of a recent visit to the Court of Siam, published in the Singapore Chronicle: - "This prodigy is a little girl of three years of age; she could swim when one year old, and never seems happy but when in the water. When put into it, she goes through many evolutions, but does not swim like other human beings; she rolls herself round and round, apparently without the least exertion to keep herself affoat, and seems as light as cork. When taken out of the water she very cross, cries, and strives with all her strength to regain it. She can neither speak nor walk, the only sound she emits being a gurgling noise in the throat, like that of a per-son choking. The mother of this child is a good-looking woman, and has had four children, two boys and two girls, of whom the two former are dead. The eldest girl is now seven or eight years old; she is generally swimming with, or watching her sister, to protect her in case of The "swimming child" is also defective in her sight, and has not yet tasted any other food than her mother's milk."

College at Allahabad .- We learn from the Delhi Gazette that the Bengal government have, through the Committee of Public Instruction at Calcutta, adopted measures for establishing a Collegiate Institution at Allahabad, for the instruction of the natives in the English language. The funds, however, have been found inadequate, but we feel persuaded that the Committee of Instruction will afford every reasonable aid towards placing the establishment on an efficient footing. The native community at Allahabad has evinced a strong desire to avail themselves of the advantages offered to them; and a large number of its members have already registered their names, or those of their children, as willing to engage in the study of English, were such an opportunity held out to them.

Fish. -The fishermen of France are by far the poorest of the peasantry, and we fear it is so also in England. There is, besides, a certain pecu-liarity of taste in the fishing districts, which make the people poorer than they need be. On the banks of the Scine, for instance, the fishermen are compelled to eat the John Dorys themselves, or else to throw them away; for this fish, so excellent and so wholesome, is not admitted to the tables of the genteel, and therefore fetches only a few centimes in the market. In England we understand good eating better, at least in this respect, and very properly place the vulgar John Dory upon a par with the aristocratical turbot. We should not forget to add, that in some parts of Ireland-for instance, in the county Sligo,

with which we are best acquainted-the skate is reckoned unfit for human food. The starving peasant turns away from it with contempt, and, when taken accidentally either by the rich or when taken accumentary either by the rich or poor, it is thrown back into the sea. The same insane prejudice prevails to a certain extent in Scotland; while in London we meet with por-tions of the elsewhere proscribed, and really excellent fish, at the daintiest tables.—Rithle's

Causes of Rain .- There is an old proverb in Germany, that when monks go abroad it is sure to rain; Frischlin says, that he heard a philosopher in Prague gravely attempt to account for the phenomenon, attributing it to the fumes of liquor easily escaping through the bald crowns, and becoming condensed by the cold of the at-

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL

Days of W.& Mon.	Thermom. Max. Min.	Barometer. Noon.	Winds.	Weather.
Thur. 12	43 31	29.50	N.W.	Clear.
Frid. 13	42 37	29,90	N.W.	Cloudy.
Sat. 14	50 42	29.96	S.W.	Ditto.
Sun. 15		28.90	S.W.	Rain.
Mon. 16		29.50	S. W. H.	M. Rain
Tues. 17		29.10	S.W. n.	Cloudy.
Wed. 18	56 42	29.25	W. H.	Ditto.

Prevailing Clouds.—Cirrostratus, Nimbus, Nights and Mornings, for the greater part, fair. Stormy wind during the latter part of the week. Mean temperature of the week, 44,5% Greater intion, 25%—Mean atmospheric pressure, 20,53. Day decreased on Wednesday 8 h. 48 m.

NOVELTIES IN LITERATURE AND ART. NOVELTIES IN LITERATURE AND ART.
Facts and Documents relative to the British Museum; including an Account of its Revenue and Expenditure; its Donations and Bequests; the Expense of Printing Museum Publications, &c., with a copy of the Bye-Laws as altered in 1833, &c.
The Cabinet Annual Register and Miscellaneon Chronicle of 1833. Dupin's Mathematics practically applied to the Arts, by Dr. Birkbeck.
The Literary Cyclopædia, by Thomas Roscoe, Esp.
The Life and Labours of Adam Clarke, LLD.
The Castles of the English and Scottish Border, by T. M. Richardson.
A new Edition of the Greek and English Lexica, by Dr. Donnegan.

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Erratum.—It has been suggested to us, that Mr. Ritchie's assertion is more qualified than we imagined, when we reported him to have said, that" Beathie will be admired long after Burns is forgotten," and, or reference to the volume, this certainly appears possible. To prevent all further misconception, we will here quote the whole passage:—"The reverse of the media is inscribed with the legend 'Caledonia,' by Beath, whose stanza will be admired on the north side of the Tweed long of the Riverse long o

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